

directed to the training of the Nurses in (1) What and how to observe; (2) What is required in regard to Nursing; and (3) What to do in emergencies.

Instruction is also given in the observation of the pulse, the respiration, and the temperature, and the excretions generally; the examination of the urine, the administration of medicines, and in the signs of poisoning by the more common poisons employed as drugs in the treatment of disease. A series of classes, ten in number, are also held by myself, comprising practical instruction in the cleaning and use of ward appliances, preparation of Surgical dressings, and methods of keeping such, care of instruments, preparing and application of fomentations, and poultices, application of ointments, blisters, leeches, etc. Special attention being given to the care of beds and bedding. Syringes of all kinds, including enema, are explained, and their uses, with different methods of cleaning.

Cooking is confined to ten lessons, as the principles are taught in the Physiology and Hygienic Classes.

Particulars of this work have been published, and I take it for granted that they are already known to you.

DISADVANTAGES OF THE OLD SYSTEM.

Up to that time, 1893, we, in common with others, had gone on increasing our class work until it came to be a serious hindrance in the work of the wards, besides being detrimental to the health of the Nurses. We could not see our way to less than a ten hours' day of work, and classes in addition to this interfered with both sleep and recreation. This scheme excludes all class work during the three years spent in the wards, the time given to the acquiring of practical skill in the art of nursing.

On looking over our syllabus you will observe that the three months' preliminary instruction is given entirely at the pupil's own expense. I should like to see this modified, as I do not think nursing is sufficiently remunerative to compensate for any great outlay in the gaining of the knowledge necessary for the carrying on of the work.

FIRST COURSE—ANATOMY, PHYSIOLOGY, AND HYGIENE.

I would advocate the taking of the first course, viz., Anatomy, Physiology, and Hygiene, at some established Medical school, independent of any particular Hospital. This expense to be borne by the pupil, the course being specially arranged for pupil-nurses.

I have attended the classes under the auspices of the Royal Infirmary, Glasgow, which are held in St. Mungo's College, of that city, regularly, and

am of opinion that the ground covered by the teachers is sufficient to enable a woman to carry on her work at the bedside intelligently, and I have no desire to see these subjects extended. The fees for these classes could be minimised, by large attendances, if all Hospital authorities agreed in not taking pupils for clinical instruction, until they held Certificates from the different recognised schools for the teaching of these three subjects. Each large town possesses at least one such College, and Hospitals situated in smaller towns, where they have not the same facilities, might combine to insist upon their pupils holding these certificates.

I have not mentioned Chemistry, as both Physiology and Hygiene touch upon this sufficiently for the purpose of nursing, but, we want uniformity, and this can never be attained without a central controlling power, to regulate these things for us. One distinct gain we should have in the above would be freedom from a preliminary examination, as the woman who could pass the examinations connected with the first course would certainly possess sufficient general education for the second.

SECOND COURSE—CLINICAL CLASSES.

I think the Clinical Classes should be undertaken by the Hospital Authorities, each for themselves, the nature of these also to be fixed, being confined entirely to the general, no specialism. About two months should be sufficient to cover the necessary ground, the pupils paying fees sufficient to cover the expense of lectures, the Hospital providing board and lodging free of expense to the pupil, with suitable class rooms, and the Matron or Lady Superintendent, as she may be termed, taking general supervision of these classes, and seeing that efficient tutorial assistance is given to the pupils, in addition to her own proper classes.

The nature of this teaching as adopted by us, and the subjects we think it necessary for the pupil to be instructed in, I have already mentioned. We also endeavour to impart some principles upon which self-education may be carried on during the three years perfect freedom from class work. I should like to see more time devoted to this second course of instruction than we are at present able to give to it, and that is why I advocate the lessening of the expense to the pupil, that she may not feel it a hardship in lengthening out the time. What we cover in one month I think requires two. One hour's class work I think requires the whole of the remainder of the working day for study, either mentally or manually.

WARD WORK, THREE YEARS' COURSE.

The pupil on entering upon the actual work

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