

employers is that a sanatorium should be a school for teaching the fundamentals of sanitary living. Within the building everything is done to admit light, air, and cheerfulness, and to exclude or at least to prevent the stay of damp and dust. There is only one drawback—the building has been erected in faith that the charitable will provide the income, admission being absolutely free. Ten thousand a year is wanted. Nothing is yet received, but the managers suggest that 2,000 persons should become life governors, paying five guineas each annually. Thus the difficulty would be overcome.

The Governors of the Norfolk and Norwich Hospital have authorised the Board of Management to expend a sum not exceeding £2,000 upon the renovation of the kitchen, heating, and hot-water services at the hospital. It appears that the heating appliances are out of date, and that the work of renovation has become imperative if the culinary arrangements are to be maintained in an efficient state. Since the food supply of the hospital is more important than the medicine, none of the subscribers will, we imagine, object to the outlay now proposed. The cost of the alterations will have to be met by a generous public, who have never yet failed to respond to any reasonable and necessary demand for the better equipment of this noble institution.

At a recent meeting of the House Committee a letter was received from the Royal College of Physicians, stating that the Swansea Hospital had been added to the list of hospitals recognised by the examination board in England for medical and surgical practices. It is stated that this will mean an increased revenue to the Swansea Hospital Fund, as students can now be admitted. In consequence of the dilapidated condition of the galvanic battery for surgical purposes, it was resolved to purchase another, to cost £10.

We hope the Committee realises that if medical students are admitted for teaching purposes, the surgical and medical apparatus of the institution must not be permitted to fall into a "dilapidated condition." An efficient medical school is necessarily an expensive adjunct to any hospital.

Twenty million kronen, equal to nearly £850,000, have been left by the late Baron Nathaniel de Rothschild to provide a hospital for the gratuitous treatment of needy sufferers from nervous complaints. The testator also bequeathed the sum of 40,000 kronen to the poor of Vienna without distinction as to religion. Hitherto no provision has been made in Austria for the treatment of nervous disorders among the poorer classes; who were without proper care unless ill enough for admission to an ordinary hospital, mad enough to be admitted to a lunatic asylum, or rich enough to pay for expensive treatment in a nerve sanatorium. Baron Nathaniel de Rothschild while alive showed interest in the Schoenow Sanatorium, near Berlin, and in the Ragensmuhle Sanatorium, near Göttingen, both of which are intended for needy patients. To this is due his determination to create a similar institution on a large scale for Austria, in order to meet both a real need, and in the hope of creating a centre for studying the effect of the modern struggle for existence upon those classes which are obliged to work for a living.

Our American Letter.

Nurses' Settlement, New York.

DEAR EDITOR,—Once more in the New World, after nearly two years' of wanderings and new scenes, new people, and new ways in the Old Countries. I have not had nearly time enough to pick up all of the dropped threads, but so far as I see, there is encouraging progress in all directions. The Settlement is a place where many inspiring movements centre or pass through. For instance, Miss Hitchcock, one of the Nurses' Examining Board, is resident here, being the head of the district nursing department of the Settlement; while Miss Wald, who is the head of the whole work, is entirely engrossed by civic duties and general management. Miss Hitchcock says the State Registration work is intensely interesting, and that the amount of lively and earnest renovation and improvement going on in many training-schools as a result of it is most gratifying. In another year the full examinations will come on, and all pupils at present in training who have entered their schools since the passage of the Bill will have to pass them in order to get the title R.N. The interest is widespread and the feeling of importance generally attached to this title does, I confess, surprise me, for I have always had a Jeffersonian indifference to all titles, in spite of my zeal in working for registration. The following incident will show you how it works:—There is a certain recently established training-school which has so far given a very imperfect training to its nurses, although the hospital with which it is connected has an excellent general service. The faults were poor management, unlimited interference of the medical staff, so that the Superintendent was not able to be systematic in giving her pupils their training, and a general obliviousness of the fact that the hospital owed a duty to the nurses.

When the school was inspected for registration it was found unsatisfactory, and was promised a second inspection after systematising its work. Shortly after this, one of the medical chiefs gave the Superintendent some order or request affecting the nurses' rotation in service, to which her reply was, "I do not think the State Board would approve of that." He immediately said, "Oh, in that case I will not ask it. Find out exactly what the Board approves."

Had she been struggling alone and single-handed to attain her ideal and obliged simply to make her plea on the ground of what she herself thought best for the nurses' education, she might have been overridden or deposed.

As a result of this general awakening the State Board is now planning a curriculum attainable by the less advantageously situated hospitals, with the purpose of gaining uniformity, so far as possible, in

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