

be scrupulously careful in handling the property of another individual." She also says: "As to the cost of the necessary surgical supplies and equipment, this is a matter concerning which those who use them most frequently know the least. An intern, at the end of a year's active service in one of our large general hospitals, wished to buy, on leaving, a sample package of every kind of dressing used, for which he came to the supply room prepared to pay one dollar, and seemed exceedingly surprised when he found that the cost was many times that amount."

A noteworthy point was made by Miss Anna Jammé, of St. Mary's Hospital, Rochester, who said that the nurse should not bear all the burden for extravagance. This is fostered by her surroundings of costly equipment, unlimited supply of linen, and material for surgical work. Surely the nurse more often falls into the extravagant use and abuse of material not wilfully but unintelligently, so great is the power of example.

"Extravagance is the established system which she finds in use when she enters the hospital, and she takes it as a matter of course."

From a book, full of good things, we extract a few other points which will furnish food for thought. Miss Flora Shaw, in connection with the management of Nurses' Homes, said: "As for rules, there should be as few as possible. One should try in all ways for self government, which can be done through class organisation."

Miss Maxwell spoke of a gymnasium as a most valuable addition to a Nurses' Home. At the Presbyterian Hospital, New York, there is a well-equipped gymnasium, with regular classes for the probationers and juniors, the seniors being excused from this training in the latter part of their course. The object of this training is to teach a nurse how to accomplish her work with the least expenditure of force. An examination of the feet of each probationer is made by an orthopædist, and, in consultation with the teacher, corrective treatment when necessary is given.

In an interesting paper on the "Red Cross Nurse" Miss Mabel T. Boardman, a member of the Executive Committee of the American Red Cross, and now an Honorary Member of the Superintendents' Society, gave an interesting survey of Red Cross work. She mentioned the splendid work of the Russian nurses in the recent war with Japan. "The Russian Red Cross Nurses redeemed the situation in Russia. The Red Cross funds were not properly guarded in Russia, and I understand that these large funds that existed on paper did not materialise when war broke out, and the Red Cross began to lose public confidence, but so splendid was the record of the nurses that confidence was restored and money again poured into the Red Cross treasury."

Miss M. Helena Macmillan, in a paper on the affiliation of training schools, says that State Registration has aided somewhat this tendency towards united effort, thus one direct result of the passage of a nursing Bill has been the abandonment of the school connected with the Crippled Children's Hospital, Baltimore, and the assumption of the nursing in that institution by the University of Maryland Training School."

In connection with nurse training schools, she said: "If nurses' schools are ever to be distinctively educational they must associate themselves with other educational organisations, must become part of an educational organism. At present they are parts of a whole, but the whole has aspirations which satisfy only one side of the part. Hospitals exist to provide for the care of the sick; they may lend themselves to a certain extent to educational purposes, but never can, or should, be educational centres or assume to a large degree educational problems. The school (part of the hospital) exists to nurse the sick but also to fulfil a duty equally as important to the community—that is to educate its student nurses—and accordingly must undertake and solve these educational problems. It might seem, therefore, that the part is broader than the whole, a condition which ties the hands of the schools for nurses and makes their progress beyond a limited degree impossible.

"Should we throw aside the hospitals—which is out of the question, and, if possible, undesirable—and endeavour to unite ourselves to the universities alone, we might say, with equal truth, that the whole would fail to satisfy all needs of the part. Nurses' schools are distinctively twofold: giving care to the sick, and for this they need hospitals and the hospitals need them; and, secondly, educating their pupils, in which they must have assured assistance from a strong and essentially educational source.

"At present the position of the nurses' school seems to be a false one. With all due respect to the hospitals we love and serve, they are tying us down, binding us, and grinding out whatever aspirations we may have to make the best and most of our schools. To accomplish anything we must be free—not to stand alone, which seems beyond the limits of easy imagination, nor to desert the hospitals, which we would not leave if we could, but to have the positions of the schools re-adjusted, so that they, recognised as of educational nature, complete in themselves, and not an insignificant part of either, may unite with hospitals and with colleges, taking from both but in return giving back full measure in helpfulness. This tendency seems already to be showing itself. Whether it is the proper and possible thing for the schools is for the future to decide. We may, however, take comfort in what has been already accomplished. We are ourselves becoming broader, less exclusive, and more concerned about the results of the whole as against our own little interests. Local Superintendents, associations and State organisations, following the example of the national, have helped to bring us closer together; nursing journals are keeping us awake, and finally State Registration will do much by compelling even unwilling efforts for affiliation.

"The time is not being wasted; we are getting ourselves ready, and gradually working towards the object in view—affiliation along all lines and with every interest which will enable schools for nurses to fulfil their obligations to the utmost, and in the best, correct and broadest manner."

The discussion of these problems by so expert a body as the American Superintendents' Society, can not fail to be of value to the profession at large.

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