

some there are who are enjoying the beautiful harvest, the product of the good seeds sown in earlier years. What greater happiness could the most exacting wish, than to sit still and contemplate the deeds that have given pleasure, and the help that has mitigated suffering, and to be everything and everywhere in sympathy. The "Liveableness of Life" is only realised by those who have the courage to go through with it: of those who fail it is well not to speak. Despair should be sacred, but the truth of the verse, "Whatsoever a man soweth that shall he also reap," has been repeatedly confirmed by the experience of generations.

Our actions are the manifestations of our thoughts; it is impossible to keep our thoughts secret, be they good or evil; we may succeed for a time, but sooner or later the thought will develop into visible action. So whatever act we would not do we should guard our thoughts well, and never for a moment entertain a thought which we should be sorry to see in action. The thing to keep in mind is that the thought is always the parent of the action; there is no such thing as "thoughtless action."

The great thing for us, therefore, is to make our minds our friends instead of our enemies. We all have moments in which we think grandly; encourage these thoughts and try to see what progress can be made from can't to can in practice and theory, striving to guard against ways that we shall be sorry for in after years. We must bear in mind constantly that the thoughts of the present are moulding our future, and should, therefore, seek only ideal thoughts—thoughts which are noble and right, and it is this way only that we shall build for ourselves noble characters, and raise ourselves to high planes.

A. DOWBIGGIN.

Loyalty to Leaders.

The Johns Hopkins Hospital Nurses' Alumnae much desire to have a portrait of Mrs. Hampton Robb, who preceded Miss Nutting as Superintendent, to place in the Training School. It has been settled that the same committee which undertook to procure Miss Nutting's portrait shall serve in the arrangements to be made in securing that of Mrs. Robb. American Nurses are very loyal to leaders, and singularly free from jealousy. We congratulate the Johns Hopkins nurses on their decision to honour a woman whose work has reflected so much credit upon the profession to which they belong.

Registration up-to-date.

The movement to obtain Registration of Nurses by the State, which was initiated in this country nearly 20 years ago, is primarily an educational one. The object is to ensure that the community shall have a guarantee that the trained nurses they employ are skilled in their professional duties.

At the present time such a guarantee is non-existent. No standard of knowledge for professional nurses has been defined or enforced. Each hospital gives its own certificate after a variable term of training, of instruction, of experience, and the public have no means of discriminating between the value of a certificate given after one year's training in a cottage hospital of a few beds, or after three years' training in a well-organised nursing school in a large general hospital. Such conditions are unjust not only to the public but to nurses themselves, as those who have qualified thoroughly for their responsible duties find themselves, when trained, on exactly the same footing as those who have had only a few months' training, perhaps, in a special hospital.

WHAT NURSES ASK.

We ask that the term "trained nurse" shall have a definite meaning; that any one using it shall submit to an independent examination; satisfy a Nursing Council appointed under the authority of the State that he or she possesses the qualifications necessary to render him or her a safe attendant on the sick; and that the names of all those who attain the prescribed standard shall be entered on a Nursing Register, so that the public may be enabled easily to distinguish qualified from unqualified nurses.

SUPPORT GIVEN TO THE MOVEMENT.

Resolutions in support of the regulation of the profession of nursing have been passed by the General Medical Council (the governing body of the Medical Profession) in 1889; the British Medical Association (composed of nearly 20,000 medical practitioners) in 1895, in 1904, and again in 1906; by the International Council of Nurses; the Matrons' Council of Great Britain and Ireland; the Scottish Registration Committee; the Irish Nurses' Association; the League of St. Bartholomew's Hospital Nurses, comprising 599 members; and the majority of the self-governing Leagues and Societies affiliated to the National Council of Nurses, numbering over 4,000 trained nurses. It may safely be said that the large majority of trained nurses throughout the country desire Registration by the State; but many remain inarticulate because they are not at liberty to express an unbiassed opinion.

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