

From the same journal we learn that the Dunedin authorities have devised a way in which to honour their late Matron, Miss Fraser, and perpetuate her name in connection with the Hospital in which she worked so long and faithfully, and did so much to improve the nursing standard, by instituting a "Fraser Medal" for proficiency in practical nursing.

The medal, which will be of gold, is to be given to final year nurses who qualify for it by examination and by their work in the wards during their whole time of training. A Committee consisting of the Chairman of the Hon. Medical Staff, the Medical Superintendent, and the Matron, are to make recommendations to the Hospital Committee of such nurses as should receive this mark of distinction. It is intended to select these names with great care, so that the medals will be sought after and really be a hall-mark of excellence of practical nursing in the wards.

We congratulate Miss Fraser upon working for men who generously appreciate her devoted services to the Dunedin Hospital, and Miss Katherine Mackenzie, the new Matron, that she will be privileged to take part in the honourable recognition of the work of her predecessor.

At a recent meeting of the Alumnae Association of the Bellevue Training School, New York, it was decided to start a Pension Fund, and to use as a nucleus the present benefit fund of over 5,000 dollars.

The bye-laws provide that each member of the Pension Fund who shall have been nursing for twenty years after graduation, or after five years' nursing, shall have supported herself by other occupation for the remainder of the twenty years, shall be eligible for the pension according to a schedule defining the conditions.

Should a member become disabled or totally incapacitated for self support before the expiration of twenty years' membership in the Pension Fund, she may procure a pension upon a two-third vote of the Pension Fund Committee.

No pensions will be paid until at least 60,000 dollars is in the Treasury of the Pension Fund.

#### WELCOME HELP.

The President of the Society for the State Registration of Trained Nurses acknowledges with many thanks the following donations:—Miss A. Smith (Kingston), 10s. 6d.; Miss H. Dallas, 2s. 6d.

## Duxhurst.

"The Pilgrim they laid in a large upper chamber, whose windows opened toward the sun-rising; the name of the chamber was Peace."

*The Pilgrim's Progress.*

There are many pilgrims on life's way who stumble and fall because the craving for alcohol is in their blood, because the only safety for them lies in total abstinence, and with weakened wills, and beset with temptation on every side, they despair because the battle of life seems too hard, victory well nigh impossible.

To many such the name of Lady Henry Somerset stands out as that of one ready to help them in their dire need if they can determine to take the step which will separate them from temptation, one who will care for them till the craving is subdued, or till the enfeebled will is fortified for effective resistance. Others hear it for the first time from the lips of a magistrate, when, in the depths of despair, they have attempted suicide, or committed other offences against the law, as that of a friend whose hand is outstretched to them in their trouble. No one is too degraded, too hopeless for its sustaining clasp. And, indeed, it is a question whether degradation is a word which should ever be used in connection with the victims of the drink habit, whether a future generation will not wonder at the stupidity and cruelty of laws which bring sufferers from alcoholism before the courts for conviction and punishment, instead of consigning them to medical and nursing care; as we, of this generation, regard with horror the unenlightened and cruel treatment of the insane by our forbears.

To nurses who frequently come across cases in all classes of society who need treatment for inebriety, the unique work carried on by Lady Henry Somerset at the Industrial Farm Village for Women and Children, near Reigate, of which she is the founder, must be of great interest. It may be that some of them will feel drawn to take a personal share in the work that is going on there, or that some of the cases which come under their care may be passed on to the friendly shelter of Duxhurst, to benefit by the healing influences with which it is surrounded.

The village of Duxhurst is four miles from Reigate, which is about an hour's journey from London. One enters it by way of a lodge, and within its gates is safety for the inebriate women who, out in the world, meet with temptation at every street corner. It must be a very haven of rest to those who find

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