

Co-operation step in, establish a branch there, and so secure the work and fees for its members, and thus crush out the "middleman," as it is doing in London?

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A LETTER appeared in the *Pall Mall Gazette*, on the 23rd inst., headed, "Hope for Unemployed Women," and as we fear we are likely to hear more of these complaints, we reprint it in full:—

"SIR,—It will no doubt interest some of your readers to hear of a lucrative and very light occupation for women. Under the recent Technical Education Act, the county council of a certain home county employ two—or perhaps more—young women to give lectures on home nursing. These lecturers, I understand, give two lessons a day on five days in the week, thus working in all about sixteen hours in the week. They have some fifteen weeks' holiday in the year, and their pay, exclusive of travelling expenses, is £180 a year. I recently heard a portion of a lecture delivered by one of these young ladies at a town not a great many miles from Charing Cross, and I must say it would be difficult to imagine poorer stuff. The lecture was a jumble of very ill-digested text-book physiology and petty recipes for this or that ailment, all delivered in a magnificently professorial manner. I had the curiosity to inquire into the qualifications, &c., of this lecturer, and I found that at one time she had been for some four or five months employed in a county infirmary in some obscure capacity. I cannot, of course, say whether there are many such posts to be had. In the interest of unemployed female labour, I hope there are. The main point is, that since there is even one such post under a public body such as the county council, it is more or less an evidence that the market value of uneducated female labour is a high one. Many a man who has been at pains to take a medical degree would be very glad, indeed, to work twice the time for the money; and yet people say "girls have no chance."

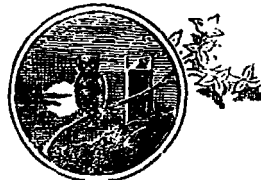
But there is another aspect of the case, which is—how far it is wise or right on the part of the county council to send out ill-qualified and over-paid young women to "lecture" on what they know nothing of?

There must be surely some public authority or board whose duty it is to enquire into the qualifications of so-called "lecturers." I am inclined to think the authorities of the medical profession ought to interfere.—I am, Sir, yours truly,
LOND. UNIV.

It is to be regretted that, within the last year, more than one Society, professing to train ladies as Lecturers in short and defective courses, has sprung up in competition with the National Health Society, which has done so much towards improving the standard of education and knowledge of ladies desirous of earning a living by lecturing on nursing, hygiene, cooking, and kindred subjects. Indeed, many of the lecturers on Nursing on the staff of the National Health Society are Registered Nurses, and we venture to think that the County Councils would be wise to demand this guarantee of efficiency from those ladies who are to teach the art. The National Health Society have a very complete curriculum for educating women for lecturers in the other subjects, and should be encouraged to maintain the highest standard, which the less thorough societies are attempting to undersell.

Matrons in Council.

WHAT IS A TRAINED NURSE?



As the Managers of the Glasgow Royal Infirmary are the only Hospital authorities who exact a Preliminary Examination from the candidates for the position of Probationers, we give the curriculum in full, feeling sure that it will prove of interest to those of our readers who are contemplating discussing question No. 2.—Is a Preliminary Examination advisable; if so, in what subjects?—in these columns:—

GLASGOW ROYAL INFIRMARY.—EDUCATION IN NURSING.

1. Preliminary education.—No Candidate will be eligible for the Courses of Instruction until she has satisfied the Managers as to her knowledge of grammar, composition, spelling, dictation, reading, writing, and arithmetic.
2. Professional Education.—The first Course will consist of at least;—
 - (1) Ten Lectures and Demonstrations on Anatomy.
 - (2) Ten Lectures and Demonstrations on Physiology.
 - (3) Ten Lectures and Demonstrations on Hygiene.
 Candidates will require to pass an Examination on these subjects at the conclusion of the Course.
3. Only those who have passed the above Examination will be eligible for further instruction. If elected, they will attend a second Course of Lectures and Demonstrations, extending over two months and consisting of at least:—
 - (1) Twenty Lectures and Demonstrations on Surgical Cases.
 - (2) Twenty Lectures and Demonstrations on Medical Cases.
 - (3) Twenty Practical Lectures by the Matron and Housekeeper on Ward Work and Cookery.
 Candidates will require to pass an Examination on these subjects at the end of the Course.
4. The Fee for the first Course will be £2 2s., and for the second £3 3s., and will be allocated by the Managers.
5. In selecting Probationers, the Managers will give a preference *ceteris paribus* to those Candidates who have passed the above examinations. The period of training and residence as Probationers will be two years. The salary will be £12 for the first year and £20 for the second year, with

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