

not *overcrowded*. The calling is one peculiarly suited to women. The demand for *Trained Female Nurses* is greater than the *supply*, and will continue so for another generation. The *wages* range from 15 dols. to 25 dols. *per week*.

One hour a day spent in reading will enable all women who desire it to gain the means of a lucrative livelihood."

Registration is the only weapon wherewith to fight such hydra-headed monstrosities in the way of sham Nurses. And it is hardly surprising that such schools should flourish in the United States, where the Medical Acts are almost a dead letter, and where sham Medical Schools flaunt their sham certificates before the eyes of a powerless law. In some States legislation is dealing with the matter, but so far it has not exercised a very potent influence. Only some three years since a brother of the writer of this article, who was on the editorial staff of a leading New York paper, exercised his journalistic instincts in unearthing a flourishing sham Medical College in that city. In the guise of a would-be quack he managed to secure in a few days a marvellous and imposing diploma, setting forth his fitness to practise medicine and surgery, and certifying that he had gone through the necessary curriculum and examinations.

Next day the President of the College was in custody, and the diploma produced in Court consigned the Chief of the Frauds to an acquaintance for some two years with the interior of a State Prison. It is difficult to see why the same fate should not overtake those who perpetrate Nursing frauds on the community.

Reflections

FROM A BOARD ROOM MIRROR.



THE Salford Board of Guardians has been for some time exercised in mind as to the advantages from a digestive point of view of the "potato pies," which have for some time figured largely in the children's bills of fare. Investigation being made it was found that these pies often had a crust of from three to four

inches thick—and this was not considered by the majority of the Board as constituting the best diet for children from 3 to 5. At a recent meeting one of the guardians triumphantly reported that the thickness of the paste had been diminished to three-quarters of an inch, but the chairman refused to be satisfied and remarked that pastry of that solidity was not fit for young children. The medical officer is also very dissatisfied with the pies, and it is felt that they must be abolished. A question exercising the minds of the children at present is, will the substitute for "pie" be something good, or are they to be provided with a food which is hygienic but nasty?

The view of Mr. Maynard, a baker of Clapham, as to the change that decomposed condensed milk undergoes in baking is simple, but, we fear, slightly erroneous. It was pointed out to him by a sanitary inspector that several cases of condensed milk that he had on his premises for the supposed purpose of using them in the creation of light pastry, were in an advanced state of decomposition. Mr. Maynard took a light-hearted view of the situation. Ignoring the pertinent question of the inspector as to whether he thought the milk was fit for use he propounded the view that "It all goes off in the baking"—a superstition, however, that the Lambeth magistrate did not share. Apparently, too, Mr. Maynard's subsequent assurance that his men had instructions to sort out the good tins and throw away the bad appealed with as little force to Mr. de Rutzen, who thought that a more effective method of impressing upon Mr. Maynard and his partner that it does not go off in the baking would be to fine them £10 each.

At a special meeting of the Corporation of the Belfast Royal Hospital, it was decided to make some very necessary improvements, which will cost about £1,500. It is contemplated first, to add to the present sanitary block so as to provide space for additional baths. These would add greatly to the comfort of the patients, as at present, their only baths are situated on the ground floor. The next improvement was the enlargement and re-arrangement of the present theatre, and the addition to it of an adjoining room. For some time the staff have felt themselves very much hampered, particularly during the time students are attending, by the small size of the operating theatre. In addition to its proposed extension it is to be thoroughly refurnished with every appliance which can render it aseptic and in accordance with those rigid requirements now demanded by modern surgery. Instead of the present isolation wards it is proposed to erect a long range of one-storied buildings, with a large ward for males and one for females, the kitchen, sculleries, and pantries being in the centre, and at one end a mortuary, *post-mortem* room, and other required conveniences.

Dr. Weir-Mitchell, of Philadelphia, the well-known nerve specialist, has had the degree of Doctor of Laws conferred upon him by the Edinburgh University.

The Secretary of the Children's Aid Society in New York reports that the Society has twenty-one day schools and twelve night schools, with a daily average attendance of

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