

is managed solely upon the merit system. The merit system, it is scarcely necessary to say, is the cornerstone of efficient training school management. A Nurse must be made to feel that faithfulness to duty and integrity of character are the first and last essentials of her make up, that whatever else she may be, she is without these, as a Nurse, valueless.

The school to-day numbers sixty-one Nurses in training, and is officered by a Superintendent, Assistant Superintendent, and four supervising Nurses. There has been a larger number of applicants than in any previous year. Eight Nurses have been dropped from the school-roll for various reasons, and a class of thirty-one Nurses graduated.

Seven of our graduate Nurses have received excellent Hospital appointments during the past year; one graduate, Miss Sarah Silver, has finished with honours a course in medicine, and one, Miss Mahoney, took highest honours on completing a course in pharmacy. The pupil Nurses have also contributed to the literary reputation of the school by writing essays on "Training School Life" for the "Delineator," and with the money received for these essays we have been able to add 150 books to our home library.

We are again indebted to the Special Training School Committee* composed of members of the State Charities Aid Association for continuing the lecture fund this winter, by means of which a course of thirty lectures has been secured to the school. This is the fifth year the members of this Committee have contributed this fund; and to their support and encouragement in many ways the school owes in large measure its standing and success. To Mrs. Frederick Rhinelander Jones in particular, who is Chairman of this Committee, our thanks, as always, are specially due for the kind interest she takes in all school matters, and for continued individual subscriptions for newspapers, magazines and periodicals.

We have again to thank Mrs. Elbridge T. Gerry for many gifts for the comfort of the patients; the Island Mission for contributions too numerous to enumerate; and the Rev. Mr. Freeman, Chaplain of St. Luke's Hospital, and the Guild of St. Barnabas for the Sunday evening services held at the Nurses' Home.¹

We would express our thanks to the warden, house-staff, and officers of the Hospitals for kindness and courtesy shown and instruction given; also to the members of the Board of Examiners for the care and trouble taken by them in reviewing the papers and conducting the final examinations of the school.

And now, my report should not close without mentioning one more matter of interest to the School—Miss Kimber's book. Miss Kimber's "Anatomy and Physiology for Nurses," published last October, met with so good a reception that since then three editions have been printed to meet the demand. It is very generally adopted as a text book in all the important schools in this country and in Canada, and as it was practically the outcome of years of teaching the classes of this school, it should, I think, be considered as one of the triumphs of the past school year.

Respectfully submitted,
LOUISE DANCHE, *Superintendent.*

* Special Committee of the New York City Training School for Nurses.—Mrs. F. R. Jones, Chairman; Miss Rosalie Butler, Mrs. Charles F. Fairchild, Mrs. Francis P. Kinnicut, Mr. Joseph H. Choate, Mr. Everett P. Wheeler.

Home Hospitals.

SOME IDEALS.—THE DOMESTIC STAFF.

THE duties of the parlour-maid in a Home Hospital consist in the charge of crockery, silver and glass, both for the use of the patients and Nursing staff—an average of twenty people—so that with these duties she will require the assistance of a young girl, say of fifteen or so, whose principal duty will be to wash and clean and polish the silver daily, and do a little light housework, such as cleaning bath-rooms, oilcloth, &c. She should not, however, be permitted to lift heavy weights. The parlour-maid will be responsible for the cleanliness of the sitting-room, and will be dressed by 12.30 daily to wait at the Nurses' table; she will also be required to help to carry up the patients' dinners on the evenings on which the housemaids are absent. The cleanliness of the Nurses' bath-room and lavatory will be part of her work. Personally, we have a strong objection to male servants indoors, and hope the time may come when these "expensive luxuries" will seek a living by out-door work, and leave the polishing of spoons and forks, and answering the front door bell (also the care of the cellar key) to the more industrious and reliable sex. The masculine element in the home should be represented only by a smart boy, who should begin the morning's work by filling the coal-scuttles, cleaning boots, knives, tins and yards, and who, after 10 a.m., will be available to answer the front door bell or do odd jobs.

The duties of the housemaids will be cleaning the stairs, passages, patients' and Nurses' bed-rooms, and carrying up and down the patients' meals. They should begin work at 6.30, sweeping and dusting staircase, after breakfast performing the following duties in each patient's room: rake out and clean fireplace, make up fire, sweep and dust floor, and when the patient is washed, thoroughly clean washstand and crockery, fill jugs and bottle (the latter with boiled and filtered water), and empty slops. When patients' rooms are finished, lavatories cleaned, the night and day Nurses' rooms must then be attended to. The housemaids will carry up the coals and trays with meals to each floor and remove them again, dividing the duty. It is the best plan for each patient to have his own tray and cloth, the Nurse of the room preparing this, so that as soon as the food is brought upstairs it can be carried into her patient without delay. No food should ever be given to a patient by a maid, as this is an important duty which should always be performed by the Nurse, who should be careful to watch carefully the appetite of her patients, and if necessary, encourage them to take all food ordered by the doctor.

To prepare the patient's room it is advisable between the reception of patients that each room should be most thoroughly cleansed and aired for at least four and twenty hours.

Immediately upon the departure of a patient it should be the Nurse's duty to turn out every drawer, cupboard and corner in the room. She should then overlook the bedding, removing the mattress cover, blankets, sheets and coverlets, and constantly removing the pillow-ticks so that the feathers can be replaced in clean covers; the soiled linen carefully folded and placed in the dirty linen basket, wherever kept. The windows should then all be opened at top and bottom;

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