

There should be a definite fixed charge known from the start; and when a patron of the Registry asks the inevitable question, "How much do your Nurses charge?" the agent should be in a position to give a definite answer according to a schedule of prices with which she should be provided.

Probably the best schedule of rates is that fixed on the graded basis. A certain set of Nurses who have been doing private Nursing for some time successfully may not wish to accept less than 25 dols. per week. A second set find that in the long run they will do better by offering to nurse for 21 dols. per week. A third set, lately graduated perhaps, and not yet "in demand," may be willing to register for 16 or 18 dols. per week. By this system the agent would be able to meet a fair question with a fair answer, and to supply Nurses according to the ability of the applicant to pay for them.

Before leaving this subject, there is one more point we should consider, and that is the bearing or effect the protective Registry has upon Training School management. A wise woman who contemplates entering a Training School course will naturally consider what prospects will lie before her after she has gained her diploma. The school which has fostered a Registry, and by this means established a footing which the newly-graduated Nurse may enter upon as soon as she finished her Hospital work, will naturally be looked upon with more favour, and will secure a better class of applicant than the one which leaves its graduates to shift for themselves and secure recognition and work as best they may.

But some will say that this is a protective system which applies only to the graduates in large cities. What is to become of the graduates of the schools in the smaller cities or towns? I would say to this, that the same system might be brought to bear in the small towns as in the large. In every community large enough to require and support a Hospital for the sick poor, there must be a certain number of sick in wealthy homes requiring the services of the trained Nurse. The mistake has been in leaving these towns and crowding into the large cities. So much so has this been the case, that our city Registries are frequently called upon to send their Nurses to the adjacent towns and smaller cities which might have been supplied by their own Nurses trained and graduated within their own borders.

Now, after all is said and done the truth remains, that the greatest obstacle in the establishment of Co-operative Registries, or co-operative anything for women, is the woman herself.

Men in their work and struggle for life have learned through succeeding ages the lesson that union is strength, and that organisation means protection and success in their various trades and professions. They have learned to submit to rules and regulations when once they are formulated by general consent, and to bow to authority which they themselves have established. They know how to cohere, to sustain each other; they congregate together for their common protection and safety.

Women have yet this great lesson to learn, and we who as Superintendents have gained some experience in management and organisation, owe it to our graduate Nurses in this, their own special work of Nursing so far as in us lies, and with all the influence our position gives, to teach them for their own safety and protection to co-operate and organise societies for mutual protection and advancement.

## Bradford Incorporated Nurses' Institution.

At the annual meeting of this excellent Association, Dr. Goyder, who has worked indefatigably towards its success, read the report, which stated that the year's work had been of a most satisfactory nature. The year began with a staff of forty-one Nurses and ten Probationers, and ended with thirty-three Nurses and six Probationers, the diminution being attributable to the transference of six Nurses to the District Nursing Branch. The cases attended during the year covered no fewer than 1,440 weeks, as compared with 1,271 weeks in 1894. The reports of the Nurses' services had, almost without exception, been highly satisfactory. The committee observed a distinct advance in the public appreciation of the Nurses of the Institution, and it was the committee's desire and effort by the training and engagement of superior Nurses, to attain the highest possible state of efficiency. The health of most of the Nurses had been very good, but a few had prolonged illnesses, and for these the Committee, through the existence of the Nurses' Sick Fund, were enabled to afford lengthened holidays for the purposes of recruiting. The Committee were happy to report that the increased period for the training of Probationers, which was under discussion the previous year, had been decided by an amicable arrangement with the Board of the Bradford Infirmary, whereby, from September, 1895, every Probationer would have the benefit of three years' training in order to secure Registration by the Royal British Nurses' Association as a fully trained Nurse.

## Small-pox at Gloucester.

THE accommodation for small-pox patients at the Gloucester Hospitals is limited, and large numbers of sufferers who are unable to be received are treated privately in their own homes by Trained Nurses sent by the District Nursing Association, who in the case of poor patients make no charge for their services.

The epidemic is causing great distress, to alleviate which various funds have been started during the past three weeks. These have been handsomely subscribed to by the residents in aid of the District Nursing Association, and for relief of the distress, but more money is urgently needed, as are gifts of old linen, clothing, tobacco, and other articles for the patients in the Hospitals.

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