

She thought restrictions as to class should be made in awarding Scholarships, and objected to what she called the "young lady element."

The Chairman of the Suffolk Technical Education Committee said he could think of no more appropriate object for the Technical Education funds than that of the training of Rural Nurses. And he approved cordially of Nursing Scholarships.

Mr. Wiltshire, Secretary of the Herefordshire County Council, said that in his county only two applications had been received for Nursing Scholarships, and both applicants were laundresses.

The Duchess of Sutherland spoke of the good work being accomplished by the seventeen Rural Nurses at work in Sutherlandshire. While highly approving of thorough training for Nurses, she said circumstances alter cases, and the best trained Nurses could not be supplied in rural districts. She thought much depended on the choice of the individual woman.

The Hon. Sydney Holland said on behalf of the Queen's Institute, that it was quite willing to inspect the County Rural Nurses if they held the L.O.S. certificate. He would lay down the principle most emphatically that while Maternity Nursing might be taught in six months, general nursing could not. And he thought it would be most unfair for Rural Nurses to come into competition with really trained Nurses.

Dr. Lowe of Lincolnshire said that selection was very important. "City ladies" were not required in county villages, neither had "grand lady Nurses" any place there. Good village women should be chosen, and local doctors were the best trainers a Nurse could possibly have. Local doctors looked with much suspicion on Inspectorship.

Miss Broadwood, the originator of the Holt-Ockley system of Cottage Helps, said her fourteen years' work had not changed any of her views. She was opposed to any minimum of training, but would insist on a minimum of efficiency. She looked forward to a Central Examining Board to examine Nurses for what they *were*, not for their training. If they had worked in a district, let them be certificated for district work; if they had nursed in cottages, they should be examined on that. She thought everything connected with nursing should be in the hands of medical men, and she was ready to suggest the names of medical men who would be ready to act on the Examining Board she proposed.

The Conference closed with the usual votes of thanks, and an expression of hope from Lord Winchilsea that they would meet again next year.

Nurses and Motor Cars.

ONE of the most prominent events of the nineteenth century has been the introduction of the motor car, which now enters upon a legalised existence in England by means of the Light Locomotives Act of 1896. It is but right that such a momentous invention should possess some interest—practical or otherwise—for everyone of Her Majesty's liege subjects, and among them must be reckoned the large and ever increasing army of women, who spend their lives battling with disease in our Hospitals and Infirmarys. We have recently expressed the wish that the cycle may become a powerful factor in helping to brighten the lives of our Nurses, and in tending to the recuperation of their health. We can but hope that the advent of the motor car may be of some utility also in the same direction. But how? There's the rub!

We may apparently expect to see every kind of vehicle driven by petroleum—steam and electricity having up to date proved somewhat of failures for supplying power to motor cars. Why not the bath-chair, that necessary adjunct of every invalid on the road to convalescence? Every Nurse knows—at least, every Nurse who has had experience of private practice—how the accompanying the patient on a walk has meant a continual trotting up and down in the warmest spot to be found at the time. With an automobile bath-chair the Nurse can take her seat therein with the patient, and do the steering, thus saving herself exercise which, after heavy duties in a sick-room, is not altogether desirable or sought after. Air, and fresh air, is as necessary to the Nurse as to the patient, and equally so without fatigue. Doubtless such chairs will be on hire, especially at all our seaside health resorts.

Another consummation devoutly to be wished is that motor cars will be cheaper to hire than cabs, for whose motive power horses have to be kept. Here again may a chance be given to Nurses, who though not sufficiently well off to pay for cab drives, may yet manage to hire an automobile, and get a certain amount of fresh air without fatigue and at a comparatively small cost. In short, it is perhaps not too much to hope that, whereas the cycle means, for those strong and young enough, fresh air with exercise, the motor-car will supply those so wishing with fresh air without exercise.

Unhappily, as the cycle, in spite of its many attractions, has been the cause of serious and lamentable accidents, the advent of the horseless vehicle will probably, in spite of the strict

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