

and that under no circumstances would the attendants be allowed to take charge of a really serious case.

How far these principles can be enforced remains to be seen. Undoubtedly there is a large field of work which trained nurses would not care to spend time over, yet which ought to be taken by some one with more training and general fitness than the ordinary amateur. If this field can be properly cultivated without encroachment upon the neighbouring domain of the fully-trained nurse, a good work will be done. The course is open to criticism as being too easy. Two months' time, with five or six hours work daily and five lectures weekly, is not enough for the purpose aimed at, and the rate of compensation afterwards seems disproportionately large, as compared with that of the nurse, who averages only three times as much, after a most difficult course of two or three years, taken at an infinitely greater cost to herself of health and strength.

A NEW TRAINING SCHOOL.

Roosevelt Hospital, of New York City, has just opened a Training School for Nurses, coincident with the completion of the new pavilion for private patients, on the upper floors of which the pupils will reside. Although established in 1871, Roosevelt has never had a training school, but has had its nursing work done under a system which would undoubtedly seem a heterogeneous one to those accustomed to the quasi-military organisation of training schools, with their clearly-defined grading of rank, authority, and responsibility. Permanent nurses (men, and experienced, not trained) reigned in the male wards, while pupils from another training school in the City were furnished for other parts of the work, and graduate nurses were established in operating room service and special work. The superintendent of the Hospital, a layman, had charge of the nursing department. Some few years ago an effort was made by the medical staff to establish training school methods, and an admirable and highly-endowed woman, a graduate of the Philadelphia Training School, took charge, but the attempt was a failure. She was expected to effect reforms, but without changing anything.

The newly-organised school is to have a three years' course. The graduate nurse who is in charge is not called "Superintendent" but "Directress" of nurses, and is subject to the authority of the Superintendent of the Hospital.

In Hospitals generally the three years' course is slowly extending. As a rule the schools which are adopting it go about it quietly, so that the general public hears little of it. It is said that the Presbyterian of New York City will soon establish it. So far the only Eastern Hospital of prominence to formally establish the eight hour system in conjunction with the three years' course is the Johns Hopkins, and it will be a matter of much interest to see how it works out. With the lengthening of the course and the more exacting course of study, including, in most schools, lessons in cooking, some lightening of Hospital hours becomes almost a necessity, yet there are many Superintendents who, while conscientiously anxious not to overburden their pupils, cannot as yet see their way clear to an eight hour system. It is sometimes a question of the additional expense, sometimes of the extra room required for a larger number of pupils. There are some excellent Superintendents, whose own Hospital training was of the severest, who doubt

the fibre of nurses brought up under an eight hour system, and think it will make training too easy to prove mettle, and weed out incapables. On the other hand it must be remembered that the mental work and study required of a pupil ten years ago did not compare with that of to-day, and that a combination of physical labour and mental exertion is harder than either one singly. It is no easier to work nine or ten hours a day and study two, than to work twelve or thirteen without study or with but little.

Miss Nutting's paper last year on the Statistics of Working Hours in Hospitals, created quite a widespread sensation, and in some quarters even consternation. It was much noticed outside of purely Hospital circles.

The whole question is probably one which cannot be proved by argument, but must be left for time to work out.

NURSES IN BUSINESS.

There are some practical business women among nurses, notwithstanding the fact that we often hear to the contrary, and the tendency to overcrowding in the profession is likely to be more and more offset by the departure of trained nurses into other lines of work. Several interesting examples give the text for these remarks, which may stimulate others to similar ventures. Some years ago Miss Wadley, a graduate of Bellevue, began experimenting in the manufacture of fermented milks. She attained perfection in making Kumyss, but had in her mind something different, which should be an improvement on Kumyss and toward which she strove constantly. After some time she succeeded in producing what she wanted. Her process, of course, is her secret. The fermented milk is put up in syphons, this being a great advantage over the Kumyss bottle, with its popping and liability to escape, and there is a peculiar and delightful quality which differentiates it from all the other varieties of fermented milk. Miss Wadley's business grew until now she is Manager of the Somal Company, Somal being the name of the milk-food. Their business is large and prosperous, and Somal is sold in all the large cities by special agents.

Another brilliant example of the nurse in business is Miss Neal, a graduate of the New York City Training School in Blackwell's Island, who has patented what is without doubt the most delightful baby bath tub in existence. It consists of a set of wooden legs and cross-pieces such as belong to a butler's tray, and fastened upon this is a piece of white rubber sheeting of proper size and shape. It is a boon to travelling mothers, being folded up and packed easily, while for comfort to the baby and convenience to the nurse it stands alone. Miss Neal now directs the wholesale manufacture of these portable tubs, and the business of distributing them, most successfully, and her profits must be considerable, as they are in demand everywhere.

Nurses have also successfully carried on such enterprises as the making and selling of all sorts of articles such as are required in sick rooms for surgical and medical purposes, sterilised dressings, bandages, bed-rests, dainty garments for the invalid, &c., and also food suitable for invalids. These avenues of trade are all legitimately open to the trained nurse, and capable of being raised and dignified by her. They constitute a large and so far uncrowded field of work in which many may find success and a competency.

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