

organisation decided the question, and a president was then and there chosen by acclamation.

At a second meeting, a week later, the officers and council were chosen, all offices being filled by superintendents of training schools, the council consisting of these officers, and two graduates from each of the schools.

A constitution was then drawn up by the council on the associated alumnæ plan, and adopted by the association at their next meeting. All schools that had not already alumnæ associations were asked to form them, with the understanding that each school was then to join the associated alumnæ in a body, thereby making a solid basis upon which to build an association and an associated alumnæ registry.

By October 1st, 1896, every school in Brooklyn had established its own alumnæ, and the council directed that the following notice should be sent to all physicians and representative citizens:

NOTICE.

The Associated Alumnæ of Brooklyn Training Schools for Nurses will open a Registry October 1st, 1896, at 236 Schermerhorn Street, to be known as the Associated Alumnæ Registry for Nurses. None but members of the association will be allowed to register, thus making sure of the standing of all nurses sent out.

No fee will be charged those calling a nurse, and the nurses are at liberty to make their own terms.

The registry will be in charge of a graduate nurse, and calls will be promptly attended to day and night. We will also have a list of nurses for special work. They will go by the hour to people who do not require their services for full time. They will also assist doctors in office work and operations. We will be able to occasionally supply doctors with a nurse for charity cases.

Registry lists will be issued as soon as possible, and renewed when necessary. These will be furnished the medical profession free. We earnestly request your patronage, feeling sure the convenience of the registry and the high standing of the nurses will be found perfectly satisfactory. Very truly,

REGISTRY COMMITTEE,

Officers and Council of the Associated Alumnæ.

The management of the registry is similar to that of other large registries excepting that the superintendent sends out the nurses as their names appear upon the list, if the call is not a special one. A few attempts to exactly suit the nurse to the case caused some dissatisfaction, and it was decided to follow the list as closely as possible in future, trusting that in time this defect could in some way be remedied.

When a call comes for a charity case the nurse at the foot of the list is called upon to take it.

The same course is pursued in regard to special time work. These nurses, however, still retain their places on the list, and as they approach the top they give the charity case back

to the superintendent of registry, who again supplies it if necessary from the foot of the list.

In this way nurses can keep both heart and hand in the work, and it is an immense improvement upon sitting at home day after day and month after month waiting for a case. You will notice that by this plan the registry covers the entire nursing field in Brooklyn outside of hospitals and contagious cases among the poor, and in time we hope one telephone call, that of the registry, will reach every graduate in good standing in the city. With this system there will be absolutely the least possible loss of time between the call for a nurse and the arrival of the nurse at the house of her patient. Both physicians and nurses, I believe, are ready to recognise the importance of this arrangement.

There seems to be little doubt about the practicability of an associated alumnæ and an associated alumnæ registry. There are difficulties, of course, and we have met them; but the chief difficulty, and the one it is going to take a long time to straighten out, is the graduate herself.

The keeping of a contract is a lesson yet to be learned by many of them. They have also yet to learn that their want of energy and self-helpfulness is incompatible with success in any line of work, and particularly when that work leads them into hitherto untrodden paths. The time has come for them to cease such remarks as these, "I don't see what good an association is going to do for me. I don't see what good a central registry is going to do me," and for the future try and see what they can do for their association and central registry and for the profession in general.

The fact that this registry must be run on strictly business principles, dawns slowly upon the graduate, still more slowly the fact that if they do not support the registry by a prompt deposit of their yearly fees, the registry cannot return to them the large profit they would otherwise receive. Ten dollars per year, invested in the registry, often brings to the graduate a case from which she receives one hundred dollars in four weeks' time. I know of no other investment which will bring that rate of interest. Prompt attention to her call, the moment she receives it from the registry, an alert, business-like attitude in all her relations with the physician and the public, are things yet to be cultivated by a large number of the women engaged in nursing work.

(To be continued.)

DELICIOUS MAZAWATTEE TEA  
 DELICIOUS MAZAWATTEE TEA  
 DELICIOUS MAZAWATTEE TEA  
 DELICIOUS MAZAWATTEE TEA  
 DELICIOUS MAZAWATTEE TEA

A Guarantee of Purity.

[previous page](#)

[next page](#)