

seniors. Special instruction is given in several schools in massage and cooking for the sick.

**Text Books.**—In all twelve schools either "Hampton" or "Weeks" is used; in two, both; Kimber's "Anatomy and Physiology," is used in more than one-half the number; and Dock's "Materia Medica" in seven schools.

**Facilities for Teaching.**—Nine schools possess skeleton for object teaching; eight schools have a manikin, and four have charts besides.

**Reference Books.**—Nine schools have a number of standard medical works for reference. The largest library mentioned has 50 volumes. In three schools the pupils have access to the Staff Library, not having one of their own.

**Examinations.**—(a) Eight schools require an examination in the common English branches during the probation months. (b) In seven schools an examination is held at the end of the first year conducted by the superintendent of the school. (c) In ten schools the final examination is conducted by an examining board; and in eight schools, is both written and oral.

**Diplomas and Averages.**—One school requires 60 per cent. in final examinations; one, 70 per cent.; three require 75 per cent. in both ward marks and examinations, and one 80 per cent. in everything. One grants a diploma for satisfactory work and conduct; still another confers the degree of medical and surgical nurse on its graduates. Three require good work and creditable examinations before granting a diploma.

Now, let us review some of the main points dwelt upon in this paper and, if possible, form conclusions therefrom.

Outside of the educational requirements for admission I have not touched. There are many others—those of moral character, physique, physical and mental strength, refinement, knowledge of housekeeping—which, I trust, will be taken up in the discussion to follow.

A knowledge of housekeeping, so essential in a nurse's work, is so often found lacking in the young women who make application, that until domestic economy becomes a branch of education in our public and private schools, I fear we cannot hope for much improvement. The home training is all that can be counted upon, and we know there this part is often most sadly neglected. This would seem to be a most important requirement for a course in nursing.

There seems to be some difference of opinion among superintendents in regard to the length of the course of training, which does not accord with the conditions laid down in the report of the Committee. The paper to follow will probably show why out of 44 schools connected with hospitals containing 100 beds and over, 20 have lengthened the course to three years, and only one connected with a hospital containing less than that number. As to the division of time for practical work, reports from 42 schools show that each pupil serves a definite time in each department of the hospital, but uniformity is lacking in the amount to be devoted to each service. It would seem best to allow each school to adjust this matter for itself, according to the peculiarities of the hospital with which it is connected, but if possible the minimum amount of time required in each branch to fit the pupil for her profession should be decided upon by this Society and be recognised by all schools. The question of supervision of the pupils in ward work, we would think,

needs more attention, especially in the smaller schools. The most thorough class of instruction in the principles of nursing, and often and repeated demonstrations in the practice, are not enough to inspire every pupil to be thorough in every detail of her ward work, unless there be constant oversight by a superior. Little negligences and carelessnesses, in the doing of one's work, soon become confirmed habits, and the pupil falls into a way of doing things entirely different from that in which she has been taught, hence the necessity for an experienced and capable head nurse.

As to the curriculum of study, in thirty-eight schools we find class instruction recognised as an essential part in the training of a nurse. The time has passed when a nurse was supposed to be a mere machine to carry out orders. By arranging the pupils in classes regular attendance at class and lecture is insured, and the arrangement for vacations during the summer months seems to be general.

As the principles of nursing laid down in "Hampton" and "Weeks" are much the same, and as fifty-two schools use either one or the other, and some both, it follows that if the principles taught from these books are carried out in practice in ward work general uniformity in nursing must be the result.

With reference to the lecture course provided by all schools, one might be pardoned for thinking this part just a little overdone, and might question whether too much attention is not given to it, in exclusion of the more important grounding in principles and practice. We find in every course, besides a number on hygiene and sanitation, lectures on every branch of nursing. Why not include obstetrics, massage, and cooking for the sick in the curriculum, and require that provision be made by every recognised school for practical instruction and experience in these branches. No nurse should be considered perfectly equipped to practice her profession without including these three in her general training. From reports received we find many schools already make them a part of the course of training.

Systematic marking of the pupil in ward work and deportment does not seem to be universally adopted. But all will agree that to get at the real standing of the nurse and her capability for the calling she intends to pursue, thoroughness in work, and ladylike behaviour, count far more than proficiency in theory alone.

It is shown that a number of schools require a definite percentage of marks on a graded scale, in practical work, deportment and theory, before granting a diploma, and not less than 70 per cent. is the average most frequently required. Another question to which I would call your attention is the "pupil's allowance." Though not exactly coming within the scope of this paper, any information I may have gathered on the subject may be of interest to you. In going over the reports sent from the various schools I find that eight have done away with the monthly payment of money, allowed for "the dress, text books and other expenses of the pupil in connection with her work." These schools now furnish the uniform, text books, stationery, &c., themselves, besides the usual provision of board, lodging, laundry work and medical attendance, and with this, a thorough training to fit them for their profession. To help those who, otherwise, might not be able to take the course for pecuniary reasons, one school awards annually twelve scholarships of 100 dols. each for the most creditable

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