

"This means, of course, that all graduates of schools connected with hospitals having less than one hundred beds must remain outside the pale of the Association, and, continuing the thought to its logical conclusion, must be classed with the untrained nurses and midwives. With all due respect to the promoters of the Nurses' Associated Alumnae, who doubtless have the very best interests of the profession at heart, we venture to suggest that the article in question discriminates unfairly against a large number of well-trained, intelligent, and efficient nurses, and sets up a most unique standard of eligibility to the rank of 'graduate nurse.'

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"There are now, we believe, over 200 training schools for nurses in this country and Canada, and it is doubtful if more than half the number are connected with general hospitals having one hundred beds or more. Are the graduates of these smaller schools to be denied the advantages of organisation because the hospitals where they studied had only ninety, or seventy, or fifty beds? The restriction is not only unwise, but unjust.

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"The trained nurses of the United States and Canada have a host of friends among the physicians and the laity who are watching the progress of nursing events with an interest closer than most nurses are aware of, and they hail with joy any movement which promises to unite more firmly the ranks of graduate nurses, and to set some distinguishing mark upon the untrained nurses; but they will regard as an ill omen this recent manifesto of the associated 'alumnae,' which says, in substance, that an alumna who has studied faithfully through a two years' course and received her diploma shall not be an alumna because the hospital with which her *alma mater* was connected had only ninety-nine beds.

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"'But' says one, 'we must elevate the standard; we must draw the line somewhere. These small schools with but two or three graduates in a year must be discountenanced.' True, we believe in elevating the standard, but we do not think it wise to place it on an inaccessible mountain-peak at first. The line must be drawn; may it not be drawn between the graduated and the untrained nurses *at present*? Is it not unwise to invite the antipathy and opposition of a large number of trained nurses, physicians, and others, when their co-operation is so much needed in working out the real problems which confront the profession of nursing to-day?"

The Hospital World.

THE GENERAL INFIRMARY, SALISBURY.

STANDING back from the main road, in the very heart of the City of Salisbury, stands the General Infirmary, which, for upwards of 100 years, has carried on the beneficent work of caring for the sick poor of the city, and indeed of the county of which this is the capital. In spite of its central position the Infirmary boasts of a garden of no mean size, the country breezes are wafted in at its windows, and the patients who are well enough to be promoted to couches can lie out on the balconies, with which most of the wards are provided, and obtain the full benefit of the fresh air which surrounds them.

The Infirmary was built before modern science had proclaimed many things which were unknown to our forefathers, to be hygienic necessities, but much has been done to raise the standard into conformity with modern requirements. The walls are washable, and the floors of oak or teak, highly polished, the polishing being performed by the nursing staff. The wards are large, bright, and airy, and the bedsteads are those now ordinarily used in hospitals, namely, of iron, with wire-woven mattresses. The operating theatre is at the top of one block, and the arrangements for the nursing of ovariotomy cases appear to be excellent, except that it would be a great convenience if an operating theatre could be attached to the ward set aside for these cases, as at present all the necessary instruments and appliances needed for these operations have to be carried over from the general theatre, which is in a different block.

In one ward, I noticed a shower bath, the like of which I have not seen since my childish days, which is used for the treatment of hysterical patients. In the children's ward, I noticed an ingenious babies' bath, which has been devised by the night-superintendent. In the wooden frame into which the bath is fitted at a convenient height from the floor are sunk also the sponge bowl and the soap dish, while below is a shelf for the various adjuncts with which all those who understand the mysteries of a baby's toilet are familiar.

The Infirmary has, in the garden, its own laundry, and several huts for isolation cases,

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