work very hard and they must live well, hence they must be paid. They cannot be dependent upon the caprice of many persons of different notions as to the value of the services they demand, nor will society longer take refuge from honesty in donation parties. So by general consent, fees for professional services have been arranged within certain limits in accordance with the ability of the people to pay. The very facts that on the one hand so vast an amount of work is done for the poor without recompense, and on the other, very large fees are occasionally paid by the rich, is another proof that the work is done for the work's sake, or often from a higher motive, and that the money recompense is essentially incidental.

Out of a pervading devotion to work that is at once varied and absorbing grows community of interest, mutual help, and, finally, organization.

Other questions now arise. Your relations to the public are of the closest kind. They demand fitness and involve responsibility. You become jealous of those who without training would array themselves in your ranks, who would assume the responsibility without having the fitness. And in this particular the public are in full sympathy with you. Hence on all sides the demand for a standard of requirements, the test of examination, the attestation of diplomas. Thus, under the working of certain powerful ideas, arising in logical sequence, is woven the fabric of an organization of the greatest importance to society at large and of corresponding value to its own individual members—the Profession of the Trained Nurse.

Actuated by these ideas the nurse finds her work more than satisfactory. No task properly allotted to her is menial. To render service to the ill and helpless exalts her self-respect. If she is ambitious, it is for excellence; if she feels the stimulus of rivalry, it is to surpass in skill and devotion; if she craves reputation, it is for proficiency in the gentlest arts.

Her rules of conduct are unwritten and unconsciously followed out, just as the right kind of people habitually do the right thing without premeditation.

I often wonder at the rules of conduct laid down for the nurse. A distinguished physician in a recent address to a graduating class, says in effect:—Do not weep with your patients; do not let them tempt you to smoke cigarettes; do not disclose the sacred secrets of households; do not prattle about "moving incidents" in ward and amphitheatre; do not talk shop; do not talk about yourselves. It is well to keep constantly in mind the thought of the great Pascal:—"Do you wish men to speak well of you? Then never speak well of yourself."

Influenced by the Professional Idea the nurse finds her work not only satisfactory, but also clearly defined and limited. Reponsibility is increased but it is not extended. One learns to mind one's own business. You see this in all professions. The surgeon to his bistoury; the physician to his stethoscope; every specialist to his chosen field of work or knowledge. It is a fine thing to be able to say "I do not know." It is especially fine for the nurse to know her duty, and do it and nothing more. She is not expected to know everything. Her responsibility is already sufficient, why desire to extend it. Only in emergency is she called upon to assume responsibility beyond the ordinary scope of her work. In her training, special instruction is given to enable her to meet the widest range of such incidental calls upon her; but that only for the time being, since the attending physician, or in default of him, some substitute, must in all such cases be at once summoned.

Responsive to the professional idea as manifested in the art of nursing and in the nurse, the public recognizes in the trained nurse a person of peculiar position and usefulness in the organization of society. She has her place, and the wonder is that she has been so late in coming to us to take it. She is no longer merely the willing hand of the pitiful heart to soothe the brow and bind up the wounds of suffering. She is all this and more. To the willingness of the hand she has added experience, and to the pity of her heart she has added knowledge, and she has become a power for good. She is no longer to be regarded as a better trained and more useful servant, but as one who has knowledge and is worthy of respect and consideration and honourable recompense. But let her have a care for her high calling and cherish its ideals that she may keep herself worthy.

In hers, as in all professions, the lesson of McAndrew's engines, his "orchestra sublime" is to be lifted—

"Law, Order, Duty an' Restraint, Obedience, Discipline."

These may well be the watchwords of all of you as members of an organization, but if as individuals you are to escape the hardening influence of custom and keep alive in your hearts the ideals of to-night, you must remember that underlying the professional idea is Service, the "*Ich Dien*" of the Black Prince.

"Give me no light, Great Heaven, but such as turns
To energy of human fellowship;
No powers beyond the growing heritage
That makes completer manhood."

Women's Total Abstinence Union.

The Lectures in the Women's Total Abstinence Union Offices, 4, Ludgate Hill, were continued on December 8th, by Dr. Claude Taylor, who gave an interesting address upon the "Effect of Alcohol in Surgical Diseases," in which he showed that more than half the casual accident cases, admitted to the hospitals, receive their injuries while in a state of intoxication that can be recognized.

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