

carrying flowers into the lavatories for the night—that it is a relief to be able to occupy them; for from childhood their lives have been mostly passed in active work, and they have had no opportunity of taking refuge in the study of the solar system, or the habits of the black beetle, so that now they can no longer hew wood and draw water, the days seem inordinately long.

The work of the Probationer will be similar to that in the women's Surgical Ward; but as time passes she will be given more dressings to change, and various responsible duties, according to the capacity she displays. The dusting and polishing will be still her care, and I hope her pride, for thorough cleanliness is an essential of successful Nursing, and nothing is more objectionable than an untidy Ward, or to find no hot water in the jugs on the Doctors' table, and the soap dwindled to a microscopic size.

Two months will be well spent in the Obstetric Ward, where the treatment of the diseases of women will be studied and found most useful in general work. The mechanism of the human body is so compact and so complete, that no member can be perfectly unaffected by the suffering of another part, and strange symptoms may be traced to remote causes, by a thoughtful and watchful Nurse.

The last two months of her probationary year will be spent on night duty in the care of special cases, for responsibility being greater during the lonely night watch, it is not advisable to leave the entire Ward to a Probationer, even at the end of her year. In Nursing special cases, she will have opportunity of learning the management of the Ward by observation of the Nurse in charge, and of becoming familiar with its aspect during the night; and this she can do without neglecting her case, which she must watch with unremitting care, noting every change, and writing a report for the Sister, comprising the amount of nourishment taken, manner and duration of sleep, intensity of pain, and any symptoms likely to be useful.

At the completion of each term in a Ward, the Sister will write, for inspection of the Matron, a report of the capabilities and progress of the Probationer, and the satisfaction she has given to the Medical or Surgical Staff and to herself. The year being completed, she will be placed on Staff duty and robed in the dress of a Nurse; her former duties will be mostly delegated to a Probationer, and she take the more responsible position becoming the right hand of the Sister. She will overlook the work of the Probationer, assisting her in making beds and washing helpless patients, showing how to keep their backs in good condition, and ready to teach and help her, as she herself has been helped and taught.

She will now spend two months in charge of each Ward on day duty, and one month night duty, under the direction and supervision of the Sister, from whom she will still have many things to learn. The Nurse will be responsible for the dressings, which she will prepare and place, with bowls and trays, by each bed, in readiness for the Staff of Dressers in the morning, the Probationer clearing and cleaning them after use. She will change poultices, place screens and clean towels, and see that hot water is in the jugs on the Surgeons' table. She will give medicines in any absence of the Sister, being as careful as if still Probationer to read all labels, however frequently this duty devolves upon her. She will examine the contents of the store cupboard, and indicate the bottles that require replenishing, seeing that the supply of strapping, lint, wool, and tow be well regulated, reporting to the Sister all requirements, regular and incidental. Each morning the Nurse will receive a night report from the Sister, with instructions for the day's procedure; and leave a report of the day Nursing before quitting the Ward at night. She will accompany the Sister round with the Medical Officers, uncovering wounds and removing poultices—the Probationer following, to cover the patients and take away soiled dressings—putting on fresh poultices as required. Unless the Sister prefer doing so, Nurse will keep the temperature charts, using a mapping pen and ruler. In absence of the Sister, she will accompany the Surgeon round the Ward, giving a concise report of each case, with any incidental changes and symptoms she may consider useful, sending to the dispensary at once all prescriptions and medicine bottles to be changed, and carrying out all fresh instructions.

Nurse will prepare the patients for operation, seeing that they have no food for the specified previous time, that they are suitably clothed, and clean in every particular. If it be her turn to accompany the case, standing by the Theatre Sister and handing her the dressings as required, a Probationer attending to the sponges. Upon returning, the bed will have been prepared with hot bottles and pillows, and a bowl containing small pieces of ice, in case of sickness, when Nurse will leave the Probationer in charge, coming occasionally to see that all be well. She will prepare the luncheon, and assist the Sister with the dinners, the Probationer disbursing them, in which she may require help, for the patients need placing comfortably, and the helpless ones to be fed.

On night duty she will now have charge of the Ward, with a Probationer for special cases; she will need to be constantly watchful in the dim light, always listening for a change in the breathing, a moan of pain, or the restless movement

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