

secure, as heads of their nursing departments, ladies who had received their training in the one and only training school—to wit, the London Hospital. “There are things that even the youngest amongst us do not know,” so it is, we think, permissible to remind the Editor of the *London Hospital Gazette* that there are other training schools which turn out pupils who do good work as well as the London Hospital, and to assume that no institution is efficiently nursed which is not an off-shoot of the London is both ignorant and foolish. Also this vaunting of the excellencies of individuals, as creditable to certain institutions, instead of reflecting honour upon the Nursing Profession as a whole, tends but to accentuate the isolation of the hospitals, and to maintain the undesirable jealousy which undoubtedly exists between nursing schools. We think, further, that the ordering of drawers and cupboards, according to the Matron's ideas, is most properly left in her hands, and that disparaging remarks on the arrangements of a preceding Matron, from a quarter which has no claim to special knowledge on these subjects, are both out of place, and in the worst possible taste, and cannot be either helpful or gratifying to her successor.

#### SCHOOL NURSES.

THE credit of a movement for supplying visiting nurses to elementary schools in poor districts belongs to Miss Honnor Morten of the London School Board, and already the scheme seems likely to be productive of good results. A nurse who is at work in the schools round Clare Market, finds that she is able to visit about three schools in one morning, and attend to the ailments of some sixty scholars. The nurse also follows up the bad cases at home, and by impressing cleanliness, and noting the first symptoms of infectious diseases, does much to prevent their spread. It is estimated that, as the full time of a nurse will not be needed, each nurse will cost about £50 per annum. The fact that there are sixty children attending schools who, in one morning, need the attendance of a nurse, must impress the public with the necessity for her services.

The pupils of the Hackney High School for Girls are giving an entertainment at the Queen's Hall, this afternoon, Saturday, June 11th, to provide a nurse for the poor schools in their neighbourhood. It is to be hoped that other schools will follow this example. The hon. treasurer of

the fund for providing these school nurses is Mr. W. C. Bridgeman, 89, Harley Street, W.

#### STEADFAST AND TRUE.

MRS. HAMPTON-ROBB has been re-elected President of the Associated Alumnae of Trained Nurses of the United States and Canada. We congratulate the nurse delegates upon their loyalty to the woman who has taken the initiative in the organization of the Nursing Profession in the States. We would earnestly advise every reader of the *NURSING RECORD* to most carefully study Mrs. Robb's Address, lately read at the Annual Meeting of this National Society of Nurses, in New York City. If British Nurses are to have any voice in the future development and government of their own profession, serious consideration must be given by them as to how these human rights are to be obtained. By the new code of Bye-Laws, by which the hon. officers intend to control the Royal British Nurses' Association, the position of the nurse members becomes altogether intolerably humiliating—and inevitably demoralizing.

#### MEDICAL EDUCATION.

It is a noticeable fact that, as with nursing, so with medical education, rapid strides are being made in that land of progress, America. The State University of Minnesota has decided that henceforth the study of “Practical Dietetics” is to be added to the course required of medical students. The students will in the future have to make soups, teas, gravies, farinas, and other dishes for the sick and convalescent. This new departure can be productive of nothing but good, as the ignorance of the average male on the subject of food is profound, and it is not surprising that many nurses, in the absence of express directions on the subject, take the feeding of their patients into their own hands. The importance of proper feeding in assisting the recovery of a patient can hardly be over-estimated, and the knowledge, and consequently the instructions of a medical man on this point must of necessity be vague, unless he has a practical knowledge of dietetics. It would seem as if practical knowledge is highly valued in America, as the University of Texas, as all our readers know, has instituted a course of instruction for medical students in practical nursing. The progressive attitude assumed by our “kin beyond the sea” contrasts favourably with the stationary condition of nursing education in this county.

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