

was set aside for doubtful cases, while the other rooms were occupied with typhoid patients. The porch in front of the house, shaded with canvas, and a little isolated room to the right sheltered the wounded.

My work at the Red Cross hospital became continuous, as a large number of patients came from the various camps to receive attention, and still a larger number from our camp came for consultation and treatment; and I beg to be permitted to state here that every case of typhoid fever and other diseases which was placed in my charge from the day we opened the hospital has recovered. The last of them I brought home well on the *Concho*. I also wish to state that not one patient in our hospital became infected with yellow fever. The cases that had it came there with the disease, but were closely observed, and as soon as the first positive sign was noticed they were isolated and brought to the fever hospital.

Unfortunately, the continual work of the past, the sleepless nights and the poor food had reduced my strength considerably. A surgeon and three assistants, enlisted by the Red Cross, had arrived to relieve me, and I requested them to take charge of the Spanish wounded. We had continued on duty in the various tents and at the Red Cross hospital. In order to save time when the *State of Texas* left for Jamaica to get ice, we took a dwelling in one of the houses at Siboney, which was believed by experts not to be infected. Our tents, in which we should have preferred to live, had not arrived, nor did we have any cots.

Thus our work continued until we were seized with yellow fever. I treated the Sisters, and at first, despite the pain, went about to perform my other duties. I was unable to be about any longer, and I went to bed, still continuing to treat the Sisters and myself, and Dr. Long took charge also of the patients at the hospital building. When the houses at Siboney were ordered to be burned down, we left for the yellow fever camp.

INFECTION PREVENTABLE.

One more word in regard to the infection. It is my opinion that a person, properly taken care of, may work among infectious diseases and not become infected. The precautions and prophylactics I advised could have prevented much suffering. (I refer to the Red Cross only.)

In Havana, we worked in the filthiest hospitals, where newsick were daily admitted, for the entrance of whom no examination was required, the door being open to all. We had around us small-pox, typhus, and all kinds of tropical fevers, yet the Sisters and all of us remained well; and I will add here once more that of all the cases placed in my charge at the Red Cross Hospital, at Siboney, not a single patient became infected with yellow fever, although a number of persons suffering from that disease were brought in to be observed.

Nursing Echoes.

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THE Nurses' National Total Abstinence League is growing apace, and there is no doubt that through the influence of its members great good can be accomplished; example is better than precept any day, and alcoholic stimulants are best avoided by trained nurses. One of the members of the League, who was trained in Canada, on entering English hospitals, was

horrified to find beer or beer money allowed the nurses. In American Hospitals this is never thought of, and for nurses to take beer or other stimulants would be considered degrading to the profession, and it is her strong conviction that to this fact is largely due the well-known and acknowledged excellence attained by the profession in America, and it would greatly elevate the profession in this country for all nurses to become abstainers.

In this connection, the question of whether nurses are justified in expecting to be provided with wine in private houses arises. A doctor has asked our opinion on this question, and we consider that they are not justified in so doing. This medical man was surprised to find that many private nurses in London "order" claret to be served with their luncheon and dinner, at the expense of the patient, and we are not surprised that he should consider this an unnecessary tax upon his patients, and that he should object to it.

MANY middle-class households do not have either beer or wine served at their tables, and in these days of wholesome dieting, decline to provide it, or its equivalent in "beer money" to their households, they therefore strongly object to being compelled to provide stimulants for their trained nurses.

ON the other hand, many nurses claim that in all public institutions, hospitals, and poor law infirmaries, they are provided with beer (the senior officers with a certain allowance of wine), that they become accustomed to it during their training, and feel the need of some stimulant in private practice. We hope to see the day when stimulants will only be provided in our training schools subject to the order of the medical officer.

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