

Nursing Education.

COURSE IN HOSPITAL ECONOMICS.

Miss Maud Banfield gives a most encouraging report in the *American Journal of Nursing*, of the work and progress of the Course in Hospital Economics, in New York. She says:—

The course in hospital economics at Teachers' College, Columbia University, carried on under the supervision of a committee of the American Society of Superintendents of Training-Schools, promises to prove of increasing benefit to the students as time and experience enable us to utilize to greater advantage the opportunities for improving and broadening our minds which meet us at every corner.

The students (eight) whose names are given in Miss Alline's report, are not only contented, but enthusiastic in their work. The curriculum this year has been extended and improved.

Judging from the inquiries which reach us from time to time, it is perhaps not inexpedient to reiterate that this is in no sense a post-graduate hospital course, the classes, with the exception of Hospital Economics 1 and 2, being all regular collegiate courses. This year, at the suggestion of Dean Russell, a new course has been added,—that of applied anatomy, given by Dr. Wood, at which the members of the hospital class are so far the only students. This enables Dr. Wood to adapt his instruction more especially to their needs, and also enables this class to be used by the students for practice in teaching.

The domestic science department is unusually thorough and complete, and any nurse who wishes to devote herself to the duties of teacher and dietician in a hospital finds here unusually good opportunities for fitting herself for this important position. As part of these studies are elective, however, it is advisable she should make up her mind on entering in which particular branch she most wishes to improve herself.

The student whose tastes lean more towards sociologic problems, and who wishes to study the organisation and scope of various charitable organisations which she may find of use to her as superintendent of a hospital, may also obtain unexampled facilities here, and time set aside for "field work," as it is called. It would appear to be a very good sign that the students this year are availing themselves of so many of the opportunities which are kindly offered them by friends of this pioneer movement to learn how others live and how best to help them—not always an easy task. Hospital workers often live under such immediate pressure of work that they are not able to fully acquaint themselves with the work of the various charitable organisations, which would

often be of use to their patients. Through the thoughtfulness of Miss Wald, a course of lectures on sanitary inspection of tenements and buildings, given by Mr. Wingate, a well-known sanitary engineer, is open to our students. They also attended some of the meetings of the State Charities Convention held in New York City in November, and are taking an active interest in the work of the Charity Organisation Society.

It is to be remembered that in affording facilities to women who are capable of holding responsible positions in hospitals, in broadening their minds, teaching them to teach others, to avail themselves of the work of others, the good work does not end with the women themselves, but the sick and the well, the poor and the rich, in ever-widening circles, will be benefited by the wider knowledge and experience gained. Money is needed, however. The expenses of the past year were met in part by contributions from many individual superintendents of training-schools. The lecturers on hospital economics also aid by giving their services free, only receiving their travelling expenses; their time is often given at great personal inconvenience. For this coming year we need seven hundred and fifty dollars. Of this a little over four hundred dollars has so far been subscribed. With the exception of a hundred dollars received through Miss Allerton, and a hundred dollars most kindly sent us by Miss Diana Kimber from England, this has all been subscribed by nurses' alumnae associations or by individual nurses and superintendents. A student of last year's course has also most generously given one hundred dollars towards the endowment fund. This shows that nurses themselves appreciate the necessity of this course and are willing to do their utmost to help. The Board of Examiners (who are all members of the Society of American Superintendents of Training-Schools) are anxious that all available money shall be placed to the credit of the endowment fund, but current expenses must first be paid. A separate account has been opened for this endowment fund in one of the best established savings-banks of the city, and one hundred and fourteen dollars stands to our credit. We need fifty thousand dollars.

The members of the Board of Examiners for 1901-2 are Mrs. Robb, Cleveland; Miss Davis, Boston Insane Hospital, Dorchester; Miss Richards, Taunton Hospital for Insane; Miss Maxwell, Presbyterian Hospital, New York City; Miss McIsaac, Illinois Training-School, Chicago; Miss Nevins, Garfield Memorial Hospital, Washington; Miss Sutcliffe, New York Hospital; Miss Allerton, Rochester Homœopathic Hospital; Miss Nutting, Johns Hopkins Hospital, Baltimore; Miss Banfield (chairman), Polyclinic Hospital, Philadelphia.

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