

to call upon one of the trustees to submit the plan and to ask for further conference. So ably did Miss Dolliver execute her mission that another meeting of the committee was held, an outline drawn up, and Miss Davis, Miss Riddle, and Miss Dolliver appointed a committee to confer with the dean, Miss Arnold, who received their suggestions with the greatest interest and gave them cordial assurance of her co-operation in making the plan a success.

We believe that in those cities where technical schools already exist such courses could easily be established with comparatively little additional cost. For instance, in our own city of Rochester the Mechanics' Institute has an exceptionally fine domestic science department, and it already includes in its corps of instructors a number of able physicians. In the nursing corps of the city are many able women, from among whom one could easily be selected to take charge of such a course, and it would be in line with the policy of the institute to provide such additional facilities as might be necessary to make the course a success.

Such institutions as the "Pratt" in Brooklyn and the "Drexel" in Philadelphia, we should think, could easily be made available for a special course of instruction to nurses.

The movement for this radical change in the method of training nurses comes from the superintendents of schools who have had long years of practical experience, with opportunity to judge of the defects of the present system. Hospitals are becoming more and more educational institutions, and this is right to just the extent that teaching does not interfere with the best welfare of the patient, but to carry on classes in theory, with lectures and examinations at the time when the services of the nurse are so essential to the general welfare of the hospital, complicates the administration to an alarming degree, as the demand for the more careful theoretical instruction of the nurse increases from year to year.

The more universal the agitation, the more quickly the change will be accepted.

When we have established central nursing institutes we shall have made great strides towards a uniform curriculum. With the pupils from half a dozen schools receiving their instruction in anatomy, physiology, hygiene, bacteriology, domestic science, etc., etc., from one staff of able instructors, all passing the same examinations, it will then remain for the hospitals to provide instruction in practical nursing in all its varying branches.

The whole idea of preliminary training means a great reform, and the plan is yet so new that it needs the united energies of our ablest women. How the idea has taken form at the Johns Hopkins will be given in the next number.

Nursing Echoes.

* * *All communications must be duly authenticated with name and address, not for publication, but as evidence of good faith, and should be addressed to the Editor, 20, Upper Wimpole Street, W.*



The Departmental Committee appointed by the President of the Local Government Board to inquire into the question of the nursing of the sick poor in workhouses which, for the last three months has been taking evidence on this subject, has now concluded its investigations. It is expected that the Report of the Committee will be ready early in June, and it will be awaited with interest by all who have the welfare of the indigent sick poor at heart. The Committee has had evidence from experienced nurses, well qualified to give opinions on poor law nursing matters, and we hope that due weight will be given to this evidence.

At the Annual Meeting of Asylums' Workers held on Thursday, at 11, Chandos Street, Cavendish Square, an interesting part of the proceedings was the presentation of two gold and two silver medals for long and meritorious nursing services which were awarded by the Association. When we consider the strain involved in nursing cases of mental disease we must realise that those who, for a prolonged term of service, render meritorious service to these sadly afflicted members of the community are worthy of honour.

The Committee of the Kent Nursing Institution reported at the Annual General Meeting, held at Town Malling, that "the condition of the Institution continued to be satisfactory, and the demand for the services of nurses had been in excess of that in 1900. The nurses at the Malling Home had had an exceedingly busy year, repeating their experience of 1900, when a large number of applications had to be refused. At Tunbridge Wells the first half and the last quarter of the year were also busy, but there was a slight falling off in the demand for services, and consequently in the earnings, during the early autumn. With reference to the Bromley Home, the hope expressed in the report for 1900 that it might obtain increased support had not been realised. The work of the Home was closely watched during the year, and, as the result of careful consideration by the committee, it had been

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