

the custom which is practised in our Army Medical Department, whereby a form is supplied on which the visitor states the purpose of his or her visit. This slip is then taken up by a porter to the official concerned, when either the required information is sent down or the visitor is received.

There is still another disadvantage in the promiscuous admission of visitors to the Matron of the hospital. Having followed the somewhat indefinite directions received, and found her office, it may happen, practically it often does happen, that she is not there. What is to be done then? Even a brazen reporter in search of "copy" cannot wander all over the hospital to find her; the alternative is to waylay some well-disposed passing Sister or nurse, whose business is manifestly not to attend to one's wants, but who, nevertheless, does frequently kindly undertake to go in search of the Matron on one's behalf, and eventually she is unearthed.

It would, however, be simpler and conduce to the speedy despatch of business if it were the duty of someone—either porter or maid—to find the Matron, and announce the arrival of visitors. We present this point for the consideration of hospital authorities. Those conversant with the ways of hospitals have some idea as how best to attain the object they have in view, but, we imagine, lay persons must often be nonplussed, and it may even happen that the visitor who arrives with a cheque in his pocket leaves without having bestowed it.

The Duchess of Buccleuch, who has undertaken the presidency for Scotland for the collection of the Queen Victoria Memorial Fund towards the endowment of the Jubilee Institute for Nurses, proposes to organise a "shilling fund." The necessary annual expenditure of the Scottish branch is about £3,000, and the income from donations and terminable grants falls short of the expenditure by about £600. It is in order to wipe out this deficit that the present appeal is being made. It is thought that if £30,000 could be raised anxiety for the future would be at an end, but a larger sum would enable the council to provide nurses for poor districts where they are urgently needed. The funds collected in response to this appeal will be used for work in Scotland only. Contributions amounting to £6,545 have already been received.

A contemporary gives the following rules for the avoidance of tuberculosis:—

1. A generous dietary of nitrogenous food.
2. Free ventilation of dwelling and sleeping rooms, by open windows, with wire-gauze blind.
3. Adequate house-heating in winter.
4. Boil all milk or cream previous to using.
5. Obtain eight hours' sleep; if not sound sleep, contract hours to seven, and rest during the day.

3. If debilitated, with weak digestion, rest in a recumbent position shortly before and after meals.

7. Wear loose clothing, especially around the waist and lower ribs, to afford freedom in respiration.

8. Take systematic daily exercise in the open air on foot.

9. If means and station in life admit of a long holiday, from time to time, live during fine weather in a tent in the open air, or in a summer-house, for most of the day, and, if unemployed, pursue a hobby to occupy the mind.

This is sound advice. But it must sometimes strike observers that the tendency of the age is to give such detailed care to the preservation of health that it seems as if it were the principal object of life, and that we are in some danger of becoming a hypochondriacal nation. We could wish sometimes for the infusion of a Spartan element into our modern softness and luxury. It would have a tendency to develop grit and eliminate effeminacy. We are in keen sympathy with the view expressed as to the value of a hobby.

It is a remarkable fact that although the Jewish community in London has provided for almost every philanthropic need, it has not adequately dealt with the problem of training Jewish nurses. It is not the case, however, as has been stated, that trained nurses of the Jewish faith do not exist, but their number is extremely limited. In fact, the scarcity of Jewish nurses has long been a cause for surprise in the community. At the Jewish Women's Congress, held in May last, complaint was actually made that a Jewish nurse could not be found for the children's ward of the Baroness de Hirsch's Convalescent Home on Hampstead Heath. Even the Home and Hospital for Jewish Incurables in Tottenham has no Jewish nurses. While Jewish women of the better class are ready enough to work voluntarily among the poor, cultured Jewesses show little, if any, disposition to embrace one of the noblest of all vocations. Evidence given before the Royal Commission on Alien Immigration has proved that in many institutions, and in the congested population generally, Jewish nurses are an absolute necessity.

In regard to the West Ham Lunatic Asylum, Dr. David Hunter, the medical superintendent, says in his first annual report:—"In common with most new asylums, we have had a number of an unfortunately numerous class, who move from asylum to asylum, never remaining long at any place. These people, principally female nurses, have little or no knowledge of their duties, nor do they attempt to acquire such knowledge; they spend their time in grumbling at the necessarily strict rules, and their dietary, and in stirring up a spirit of discontent."

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