

even now credited with *instinct* rather than reason. The result of not using any faculty is a diminution of the power and force of that faculty; and it is a fact I think no thoughtful woman who has had much to do with women in the aggregate will deny, that women lack the power of reasoning and trust a great deal to what is termed their instinct. I think the conclusion which is easily drawn from these facts is the need of combination among wage-earning women, that the strong may help the weak, and that both the strong and the weak may feel the force that goes with a great number of women united in aim.

Nearly sixty years ago Miss Nightingale founded the first Training School for Nurses at St. Thomas's Hospital, and since then almost all hospitals and infirmaries, big and little, have instituted a Training School, mainly because it is the cheapest method of nursing the hospital. In many instances they have given but little consideration to its organisation or the possibility of obtaining the minimum amount of training that may be considered necessary; a short term of years picking up what they can being considered sufficient to justify the probationer in calling herself a trained nurse. In the majority of the large hospitals and infirmaries nurses are well and adequately trained, and when they leave take with them a well-earned certificate and a feeling of loyalty, which many never lose, and which is a buckler and shield in many moments of temptation. With a large number this is not the case; they are half-trained, undisciplined, and, with immature judgment, are apt to run into foolishness, from much the same feeling which makes the half-broken colt kick when the harness is off.

The present condition of nurses is that of isolated units, a condition which avoids responsibility truly, but in which they lose all sense of kinship. In the highly complex life of this century there are so many by-paths, that, unless some tangible bond draws them together, the average nurse comes but little in contact with her fellows. In consequence there is a feeling of estrangement, and they lose the recognition of the community of interest which should bind them together in the common devotion to a great ideal. As units they are defenceless, they have no standard, no government, no brotherhood, and it will only be when nurses unite together in a spirit of brotherhood, each doing her own part for the betterment of herself and others, that they will be able to solve the tremendous problems that confront them. No one can do everything, but each can do a part; and when they work together the aggregate of those somethings will be very considerable.

There is, no doubt, a movement in this direction in the foundation of Leagues in connection with the Training Schools. These can accomplish much in fostering a feeling of loyalty to the

League and of friendship between its members. They provide a meeting-place for those who would never otherwise meet, and an opportunity for the exchange of ideas and discussion of many little difficulties which would never otherwise be solved. Detached Leagues cannot, however, accomplish much, as they can only influence their own members, who, having been trained under the same influences, have somewhat of the same trend of mind. Their full usefulness will only begin when they unite together, and in a friendly way do away with all those little feelings of envy and jealousy which are so apt to arise between different schools, and from the union of such leagues will come the governing body of the whole profession.

Appointments.

MATRON.

Miss Lily Edginton has been appointed Matron of the Brooke Dispensary and Cottage Hospital, Selby. She was trained at the Fir Vale Infirmary, Sheffield, and acted there as Charge Nurse. Miss Edginton has also been on the staff of the Sheffield Nurses' Training Institution, and holds the certificate of the London Obstetrical Society.

Miss H. M. Murray has been appointed Lady Superintendent of the Sanatorium at Nordrach-on-Dee. She received her training at the Royal Infirmary, Edinburgh, and has since been Sister at the Victoria Infirmary, Glasgow.

Miss Alice Bradford has been selected as Matron to the Isolation Hospital at Shanghai. She was trained at the Royal County Hospital, Winchester, where she was promoted to be Sister. Miss Bradford has also acted as Sister and Night Superintendent at the Royal South Hants Hospital, Southampton, and Matron of the District Hospital, Mansfield, Notts.

SISTER.

Miss A. M. de Ville has been appointed Home Sister at the Royal Infirmary, Bradford. She was trained at the Victoria Hospital, Burnley, and was Sister there for two years. She has also acted as Sister at the Royal Portsmouth Hospital, Night Superintendent for eighteen months at the Royal Infirmary, Halifax, and in the same capacity at the Royal Infirmary, Preston.

Miss Helen Simmons has been appointed Sister at the Children's Hospital, Nottingham. She received training in that institution and also at St. Bartholomew's Hospital. Miss Simmons also gained experience as a private nurse, and for a short period acted as Assistant Housekeeper at St. Bartholomew's.

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