

necessary that the head nurse be a woman. The board of managers of the two training-schools have become convinced of the soundness of these views, and have decided to place the entire nursing service under the direction of the superintendent of the Training School for Women Nurses, with assistants to aid her in the instruction and oversight of the pupil nurses, both male and female. This centralisation of authority will, it is believed, largely increase the efficiency both of the hospital administration and of the nursing service. Women head nurses have already been placed not only in the male ward of the pavilion of the insane, but also in charge of six other male wards in the hospital, and it is expected that the remaining male wards, with the exception of the male prison ward, the male alcoholic ward, and the male genito-urinary wards will be supplied with women head nurses before the end of the year. Male nurses will be trained and graduated as before, but in somewhat smaller classes. Though fewer in number, they will be better nurses, as they cannot fail to profit by the constant oversight of women. The women nurses will also gain in experience, as the male wards contain nearly two-thirds of the patients in the hospital. A committee on nursing, consisting of two members of the Medical Board and two members of the Board of Managers of each of the training-schools, will supervise the general policy of the nursing service of the whole hospital. The changes in the pavilion for the insane have been on an extensive scale and thorough, so far as was possible. The pavilion itself has been considerably increased in size, and the patients have been placed in charge of an expert alienist.

Mechanical restraint has been abolished, except in cases where it is absolutely essential. Some changes have also been made in the building to permit of a better classification and separation of patients. The bath-tubs are about to be removed, and replaced by the spray system of bathing, thus doing away with a constant source of danger to the patients from broken limbs and scalding. An attempt has been made, with considerable success, to lessen the overcrowding of the pavilion.

The Board of Trustees recommend the establishment by the State of an acute psychopathic hospital in the city proper. Such institutions have been for many years in successful operation in several German cities, and would undoubtedly fill a long-felt want in New York City.

The report ends with a description of the conditions existing in the allied hospitals, which is, more or less, a repetition, differing but in details from that of Bellevue, and urges in eloquent terms the construction of an entirely new hospital, a new Harlem Hospital and a new Fordham Hospital, as the only really satisfactory solution of the problem.

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.*



Miss Florence Nightingale has sent a cheque for £50 towards providing books for the Steeple Claydon Library. The committee have had the cheque framed and hung on the walls beneath the portrait of the donor.

Mr. Leslie Melville has forwarded on behalf of Countess Brownlow, President for Lincolnshire, to the Marchioness of Londonderry and the Executive Committee the sum of £2,116 10s., being the amount collected in that county for the Women's Memorial to Queen Victoria, "The Queen's Nurses" Endowment Fund.

Lord Methuen last week paid a visit to Bristol, and unveiled the South African War Memorial erected in St. Stephen's Church. An immense crowd congregated near the church, and the General had an enthusiastic reception. He paid a high tribute to the invariable kindness and courage of the doctors during the war, and referred to the nurses as the most beautiful of God's gifts to the soldier on active service.

The nursing staff of the Infirmary, Shirley Warren, Southampton, have presented Miss H. E. Carstairs with a brass inkstand and letter-rack as a mark of their regard on her resignation of the position of Night Superintendent in the Infirmary.

Mrs. Sarah Roach, who was recently fined for keeping an unlicensed asylum at Tollington Park, recently asked for another month's grace in which to pay the fine of £30 0s. imposed. She had not been able to get the money at present, but hoped to do so if granted another month's grace. Her solicitor said that if she had to go to gaol it would be a very serious matter for her physically and socially.

We are none of us disposed to think that prison air would agree with our constitutions; but this fact does not seem to be a legitimate plea for the remittance of a just sentence. Mr. Fordham tempered justice with mercy when he said that he understood Mrs. Roach had now a permit, and he would therefore give her another month in which to satisfy the order. There seems to be some flaw in the justice of our law which allows an alternative fine in the case of persons who can afford to pay it, but confines in gaol those who are unable to raise the fine imposed.

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