

"But we shall not speak of the students' use of the method, but of the nurses', for we hope the time is not far distant when the urea chart will be the duty of the trained nurse as well as the temperature chart; for the successful use of the urea tube depends on skilful manipulation rather than scientific training, and a nurse can be trained to make the determination as satisfactorily as can the doctor.

"The Intermediate Class of the Nurses' Training-School connected with the Johns Hopkins Hospital is given a course in urinary analysis, consisting of lectures and laboratory work. They meet on six days, one hour a day, and are trained to make the following tests: Specific gravity; the presence of albumin (heat and Heller's tests), its amount as measured by the Esbach tube; the presence of sugar (Fehling's test) and the determination of urea with the Doremus tube. After this course they have a practical examination, testing various urines.

"The following are the results of the urea determinations made at this year's final examination. The question was, 'How many grains of urea per litre?'

"Eleven students obtained the same result as the instructor.

"Eight students obtained results one gramme lower than the instructor.

"Two students obtained results two grammes lower than the instructor.

"Three students obtained results one gramme higher than the instructor.

"Had we been able to provide them with the Hinds' modification I imagine their results would have been even more uniform, yet those who have used the apparatus with its one-cubic-centimetre pipette cannot fail to appreciate the uniformity of the above figures. I would also add that not one of the twenty-four nurses was in error concerning the presence or absence of sugar and albumen."

There are rumours of the impending resignation of the Matron of one of London's largest hospitals, and that she is to be succeeded by a near neighbour. Will the post be advertised, we wonder?

The sad death of Miss Elizabeth Catchpole, a nurse who committed suicide by jumping from Waterloo Bridge, once more draws attention to the mental strain of nursing work. Her father stated at the inquest subsequently that his daughter had been depressed, and that he believed her condition was due to over-study and over-work. The husband of a patient nursed by the deceased said that she was depressed, and complained of her head. She told him she must give up nursing, as at times she did not know what she was doing. The jury returned a verdict of suicide while of unsound mind. The nurse was on the staff of a Nursing Home in Norwich.

Notes on Some Paris Hospitals.

HOSPITAL BROCA.

I had visited two hospitals through the kindness of friends, and still wished to investigate further, so discussed the matter with a French lady, and we decided that letters should be written to the Directors of the Hospital Broca and Hôtel Dieu.

The reasons for choosing these two were that, having seen a general hospital and an infirmary, I should now like to see a special, and the Hospital Broca is a hospital for women only. Having heard of the miserable condition of the patients in the Hôtel Dieu, I wished to see it for myself. Very promptly came the replies, but, to my surprise, *not* with the permission I expected; instead I was referred to "Monsieur le Directeur General."

Determined to gain permission if possible, a letter was forthwith despatched to the aforesaid gentleman, and again a prompt reply was received, this time with an official card authorising the visit, "requesting the Directors of the establishments mentioned to furnish *verbally* all information asked of them," and intimating that the permission was for one time only. Therefore, the first convenient day we started off, going first to Hospital Broca.

After the usual formality of showing our card to the concierge, we were shown into the office of the Director, and found ourselves face to face with an alert, keen-eyed man of about forty years of age. After explaining what we wished, he asked if he should show us over. Although realising that probably he had much to do, we said "Yes! we should like that very much if it would not take too much of his time, as we were sure he was busy." But whatever his work might have been, it was put aside so that the strangers might see all that they wished to see, and receive all the information that could be afforded them.

I found in this gentleman one who keenly realised the great deficiency in the nursing arrangements, and willing to learn all possible about other methods, not only in regard to nursing but in other things as well. Needless to say, I learnt more of the condition of nurses in France from him than in all the other visits together, because, as he remarked, "I show you everything, both good and bad, because you know and understand these things." The hospital was originally an old convent; some parts were built in 1705, others later in the same century, afterwards adapted to their present use, and, as is usually the case, the building was found extremely inconvenient when the exigencies of modern surgery brought into being, about six or seven years ago, the new surgical block.

We began our visit with this block. "The good first and the bad afterwards," remarked the Director. Our attention was first called to the wall

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