

put in so as to prevent anything like a knowledge of the examination questions getting to the candidates before the requisite time.

Miss Kate Richmond, Matron of the Women's Hospital, Sparkhill, Birmingham, asks concerning the advisability of training-schools holding their own examinations. I do not consider this advisable, because, out of fairness to the same written examination must be given to every candidate entering for it, and this cannot be done unless all the candidates meet at recognised examination rooms. In dealing with such a reform, inconveniences as suggested in the above letter must arise, and for these provision will have to be made. With regard to the test of practical ward work, a nurse's schedule should not be signed until she has satisfied her teachers that she is sufficiently experienced in that direction.

The schedule that a candidate must present before examination should be signed by the Medical Instructors, the "qualified" Matron, or Superintendent Nurse, and any other qualified teacher, if necessary.

Miss H. C. Poole suggests that the Chairman of the Board of Management should be asked for his signature. I really do not know what his qualification would be—certainly not that of instructor, and most probably not that of having an intimate knowledge of the nurses, either as regards their nursing capabilities or personal characteristics; at least, that is the case as far as my experience goes; so I think it would be better to straightway dispense with his signature, and leave that part of the business to others who are better qualified.

As to the fee, I merely suggested a maximum of £3 3s.; but I think £1 1s. would be quite sufficient for each examination, 15s. for each re-examination, and a smaller fee of 10s. 6d. for registration.

I must now approach a more vexed question—that of certificates.

Having read carefully all the criticisms, I must confess that my suggestions were not the wisest that I might have made; and such being the case, I am quite prepared to somewhat alter them.

I will now suggest that one certificate be granted for subjects 1 and 2, and special certificates for the others, after the first has been obtained.

Miss M. Burr, in her letter, says that I seem to lose myself in trying to satisfy all sections of the nursing world. I do not remember to have experienced that sensation, but will put down my suggestions on this part of the subject to a misjudged attempt to satisfy a somewhat heterogeneous community.

I can now quite see that it would not be good policy to launch out amongst a people, for the most part ignorant of nursing, persons only certificated in a particular branch of that profession, and not certificated in its essential subjects, for the public could not be expected to recognise the difference, and would consider all alike who either hold the certificate in the essential subjects or certificates in branches of the same. At the same time, it would create dissension amongst the nurses themselves, and instead of procuring harmony would cause discord.

I will now suggest that a nurse, when she has obtained the certificate in subjects 1 and 2, be called "qualified," and when she has obtained the certificate in subject 3, be called a "qualified and certificated Maternity Nurse," the same to apply to the other special certificates.

I must now deal with training-schools.

Here in all the correspondence I see destruction; nowhere can I find real construction, excepting perhaps in that by Miss Helen Todd; all are so anxious to pull to pieces, none are desirous to build up; my suggestions are treated like a child treats its picture puzzle that is put together wrongly; it sees there are errors, disarranges it, commences to put it together afresh, gets a few pieces arranged, then finds they do not fit properly, so leaves it, knowing all the while it is wrong, but trusting that someone may arrive who, having attempted or considered it before, will rearrange the pieces, and perhaps make it appear a little better than formerly, but does not expect to see it perfect owing to its exceeding intricacy.

Well, having attempted once, and had the weak spots pointed out, I will make another attempt, at the same time being aware that in parts I am fairly correct; in other parts I will endeavour to work in some of the various suggestions.

I shall still adopt the classification of Major and Minor Training-Schools.

A Major Training-School will now be one from which a nurse can become "qualified." A Minor Training-School will be one in which a nurse can only receive part of her training to become "qualified," but may be able to receive sufficient training in one of the special subjects to permit her to go up for that examination when she has the requisite schedule signed.

As to the requirements of training-schools, I will take the Major first. I think Miss Helen Todd makes a good suggestion when she says that the school should have a specified number of defined beds, so will remember that in my renovated scheme; as to the number of beds, that would have to be decided by the Board. I also like her suggestion as to qualified Sisters or Head Nurses, and likewise the latter part of the paragraph relating to the study of nursing.

My own suggestion with regard to Medical cases, including typhoid, has raised some discussion. It is my opinion that a nurse cannot be considered qualified in Medical Nursing unless she has nursed typhoid, and therefore if the school does not contain typhoid cases it cannot be classed as Major.

I may be wrong, although no one has remarked the contrary. I should like several nurses' opinions on that point. The usual statement in the correspondence relating to this question is that certain large hospitals would not be Major schools. All I can say is, that in the last few years great changes have taken place, for at Guy's Hospital only a few years ago typhoid cases were treated there, and, as far as I know, are still admitted; and also facilities were given for nurses to learn Midwifery, and I knew one nurse who obtained the Obstetrical Society's certificate while there; but with regard to Midwifery, having made the above alteration in my scheme, I shall now have to erase that subject from the requirements of the Major school.

Now as to Minor Training-Schools.

Section 3 of my paragraph on this part of the scheme has unfortunately been misunderstood. I think my wording is at fault.

What I intended to convey was that lectures and practical instruction should be given by the Medical Officer, who may or may not be resident, or, if he is unable to do so, he may authorise another registered practitioner for that purpose, provided the Board

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