

(as, for instance, in Berlin the Chief of Police, in other places the president of a district, &c.).

A certificate or diploma should be given authorising the holder to work as "examined" or licensed sick-attendant or masseuse (male and female). Those who devote themselves to private duty or district work must return at definite periods for (at least) two months' hospital work to keep themselves up in their profession.

The details of payment, life and sickness insurance, and old-age pensions were gone into thoroughly, but that may be omitted here.

These conclusions, which, while they contain some excellent practical points and show a belief in a general training for the nurse, certainly expect too much to be crowded into two years (if it takes twelve years to produce a thoroughly-trained English *gardener*), and in the next number they are vigorously contested by Dr. Eugen Israel. (He was the fine broad-minded man who spoke in favour of Sister Karll's reform movement at the Berlin Congress.)

Dr. Israel declares that it is a mistake to include masseuses, and those whose duties to the sick are of a mechanical and interrupted nature—such as attendants in hydro-therapeutic establishments—under one title with the trained nurse or "Sister."

Both his paper, and the other, by the varied terms which they use, show that there is still, in Germany, a survival of the "servant-nurse" who is found in Italy and Austria. Dr. Israel speaks of such attendants as "Heilgehilfen" (attendants, either male or female), and accords them a respectable and useful place, but says that both in hospital and private duty they are called to the patient only for certain duties which pertain only to one organ or member, such as massage, rubbing, inunctions, &c., and, apparently, in private duty they go by the hour, or for visits, and have a number of patients at one time. He then draws an admirable picture of the trained Sister, who, belonging to a refined social sphere, has enjoyed a good education and general culture, whose work, even when she performs similar mechanical duties, is of a high mental order, who continually watches, understands, and reports the patient's condition, who is the moral support of the patient, giving him courage and comfort. He thus proves that the "Sister" and the "attendant" cannot receive one diploma, and considers a two years' course too long for the attendant, but not long enough for the nurse. He would have the former receive the same four months' theoretical course which appears now to be the rule for them, and eight months' practical work in an institution, with examination, and then a licence to practise as "Heilgehilfe" (our word attendant is the best I can find, yet does not convey the same meaning), with penalty for unlawful use of this title.

Then, as to the education of the Sister, Dr. Israel

says that is not to be so readily defined, but that he is giving much thought to the question, and intended to develop his ideas in a lecture which he will give this winter before the German Nurses' Association. For the present, however, he submits the following propositions:—

That only probationers who have had a good general education (at least that of the "höhere Töchter-schule") should be admitted to the study of nursing. That the medical authorities should designate hospitals suitable as training-schools in each province. That the training should be for three years, with two courses of lectures, with examination at the end of each. That the practical work of the entire time should be accompanied by theoretical explanation and teaching, and that the work should continually progress from the easy to the difficult. That the first course (eighteen months) should comprise anatomy, physiology, hygiene, general nursing, and the care of special diseases, with bandaging and a course of massage. That the second course of eighteen months should give the pupils opportunity, beside having gone through the general wards, to gain experience in some speciality—insane or obstetrical service, care of children, &c., in hospital management, and the duties pertaining to executive positions. That a final examination should be followed by a diploma conferring the title of "Sister," which may not be unlawfully appropriated. So the ball started by Sister Karll goes rolling on, and good will result from it. L. L. DOCK.

### Sir Julian Goldsmid's Home of Rest at Brighton.

The weather at Brighton has during the last few weeks been superb, and those who have been enjoying the hospitality of the Nurses' Home of Rest have been fortunate in having, even at this late autumn season, ideal holiday weather. We wonder whether any of those who have an affection for the Home, and appreciate the dainty details which add so much to its charm, would form a small committee to keep the Home provided with curtains, linens, and fripperies?

We estimate that these things could be kept in order for about £10 per annum, and we feel sure that there must be many whose admiration of Mrs. McIntyre's work make them desire to help her if only they know how. Here is the way ready to hand. In many of our hospitals now the entire work of providing the linen and keeping it in repair is undertaken by a committee of ladies, greatly to the relief of their busy Matrons. Why should not this excellent example be followed in connection with the Home of Rest? We shall be glad to hear from any who are willing to form a small committee to help the Home in this practical way.

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