

Johns Hopkins. So, in turn, the example of Johns Hopkins has similarly influenced many others, until the widening circle of influence has extended over the whole land. The liberal endowment of a school for nurses here or in New York or Philadelphia or Boston or Baltimore must prove equally beneficial to the profession of nursing throughout the United States.

A well-known writer has published an interesting and suggestive book to show that the law of mutual aid as opposed to the more generally accepted law of competition and constant struggle has been a potent factor in the evolution first of the animal kingdom and of man, and afterwards equally in the evolution of human institutions. He fortifies his contention by many novel and interesting facts drawn from nature. He describes how land crabs assist each other in the event of an accident or sudden calamity, going so far as to station sentinels to protect moulting crabs, who are at this time helpless to protect themselves; how the worker ant carries the lame, feeds the hungry or exhausted, cares for the lazy or incompetent, and labours assiduously and unselfishly for the general good; how the honey bee rejoices in a life of servitude and self-denial to upbuild the community, without the smallest regard for the individual; and how birds of prey like the eagle, the hawk, and the vulture band themselves together for mutual protection and assistance. They seek their food together, warn each other of danger, notify one another of the presence of prey, and share with each other the product of the chase. Beavers, it is well known, in community life undertake great public work for mutual benefit, and their whole existence depends upon a complete harmony of action and mutual assistance in providing food and shelter. Even horses and cattle, now the most individual of our domestic animals, in a wild state lead an associated rather than an isolated life, and protect each other and their young, often at the cost of much individual suffering, distress, and death. The same holds good among barbarous peoples, and even among savages. The law of mutual help, the law of hospitality, the care of the aged, the protection of the weak—all these forms of personal service exist in a rudimentary form in the lowest civilisations. As we rise in the scale, the degree to which one helps another increases, until mutual effort by all for the welfare of the whole community has come to be regarded as a universal law of society. This has been most clearly and forcibly expressed by St. Paul, when he says: "We then that are

strong ought to bear the burdens of the weak and not to please ourselves." There can be no higher form of mutual assistance than the personal service rendered by the trained nurse in the hospital, as a district nurse, as a tuberculosis nurse, in the public schools, in the social settlement, in the army and navy, in the Red Cross, in the home of the poor or the palace of the rich. Everywhere her presence makes for comfort in sickness, for the minimisation of the loss to the community and the state which disease, suffering, and death entail, for the prevention of disease, and for the social uplift which is the hope of the nation, with its conglomerate population and racial diversities and animosities. More surely than education alone, more strongly than the ties of religion, more firmly than self-interest and commercialism, this form of service will bind society together and assist each class in the effort to lighten the burdens of the other.

American Nursing World.

Miss Charlotte McLeod, who organised the Victoria Order of Nurses in Canada, will be in charge of the Training School for District Nurses, which is to be opened on October 1st by the Boston District Nursing Association. Both pupils from regular training schools and graduates will be admitted.

Miss Edith Mayou has, says the *American Journal of Nursing*, resigned the position of Superintendent of Victoria Hospital Training School, London, Canada, and has joined the Victorian Order of Nurses, to do hospital work in connection with Dr. Wilfred Grenfell's Deep Sea Mission on the coasts of Labrador and Newfoundland.

Miss Dock is now back again at the Nurses' Settlement in New York, and working at the History of Nursing which she is writing in collaboration with Miss Nutting. The first volume will be in the press shortly.

At the recent meeting of the Nurses' Associated Alumnae of the United States an anecdote was overheard, told by a married member (a nurse whose husband is a physician) to an old friend. It ran like this: "My little boy has a great habit of asking his father questions, and the doctor to get rid of the child constantly has said to him, 'Ask your mother.' Finally, one morning at breakfast, after several questions had been received in this way, the little fellow studied his father intently for a moment and then said, seriously, 'Father, why is it that mother knows so much more than you do?'"

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