

afford to lose our work, and bear the anxiety entailed thereby any longer, when the matter could be so easily rectified. We feel sure that Miss Hulme would have dealt with this matter with the same tactful wisdom that characterises all her actions."

In reference to the sudden termination of Miss Hulme's engagement, they pointed out that Miss Hulme had not even been allowed a month's trial, the minimum period of time allowed to any employee. As they understood that Miss Hulme's salary would be paid up to Christmas, they further asked: "Why should £25 of the shareholders' money be spent for compensating Miss Hulme for dismissal unless there is a sufficiently grave reason, and we have been emphatically assured that no such reason exists. We would courteously suggest to you, sir, that nothing could justify such summary dismissal, but a very grave offence—which means ruin to her nursing career. No money can compensate for such a wound to her spirit."

In conclusion, they ask that Miss Hulme may stay with them for three months, and that the matter may be put to the vote of shareholders and nurses.

QUELLING THE INSURRECTION

The practical reply of the Chairman to this most reasonable letter was to empower Miss C. J. Wood to return to take charge of the Hostel and "quell the insurrection." Miss Hulme was then deprived, under protest, of the keys, and told she was at liberty to leave the building, a step which she wisely refused to take until the 29th, the date at which her engagement was terminated by the Board of Directors.

It is the openly expressed opinion on the part of the nurses that their new Lady Superintendent is being made to suffer because she did not at once refuse to consider the Petition against long-standing grievances which they had addressed to her. Be this as it may, it is the duty of Sir Allen Johnson and his Board to at once enquire further into the management of the Nurses' Hostel and to deal with the following complaints, which have been constantly made by those who have resided in the Hostel.

1. That persons are admitted to residence, concerning whose character insufficient references are required.
2. That in consequence there has been for years a long succession of notorious thefts throughout the building.
3. That the domestic management, that is the cleanliness of the service, especially in the culinary department, is deficient.
4. That owing to the arbitrary mismanagement and lack of courtesy at the telephone, private nurses suffer grave professional damage.
5. That residents are expected to observe vexatious rules which are given them by word of mouth. They consider that all rules and regulations should be in print.

The sooner the Board of the Nurses' Hostel meets and deals with these serious matters and makes a public statement respecting them the better for all concerned.

We propose to refer again to this matter.

Practical Points.

Demonstration of the Importance of Sunshine in Prevention of Tuberculosis.

For twelve years a "health register" has been kept of every house in Paris. Comparison of the records has shown that ordinary insanitary conditions and overcrowding do not favour the development of tuberculosis so much as the absence of sunshine. Old, dirty and wretched houses in the outlying districts, with plenty of light and sunshine, do not show so many cases of tuberculosis as new and luxurious houses in the wealthier quarters without free access of light and air, especially if the inner courts are narrow and the number of servants large. Many of these expensive new buildings were found to be hotbeds for tuberculosis, according to Graux's article on the subject published in the May number of *Tuberculosis*.

There are two or three general rules, says the *Clinic Review*, that can be well remembered and that always apply in the

first treatment of cases of poisoning if the poison was taken by the mouth.

1.—A glance at the patient's mouth will at once determine whether a corrosive or non-corrosive poison was used (in case positive information on this point is not afforded otherwise). And this will at once indicate whether an emetic should be resorted to. If a corrosive poison has been swallowed, it is better to at once administer warm oil. If a non-corrosive substance has been used, emetics (hot mustard water) are called for, or the stomach tube.

2. After this first general action it may be wise, and even necessary, to inquire more thoroughly into the question of the kind of poison that is producing the effect under observation, with the view of at once employing specific antidotes.

3. The next requirement is to sustain the natural process of life by all reasonable and quickly responsive means at hand.

These three general principles will apply to quite every case of the kind, and may be briefly recapitulated thus:—

First—Emetics or oil, according to whether or not the mouth is burnt.

Second—Special antidotes, if possible and needful.

Third—Support the patient.

The following interesting item is given by a contemporary.

A Cinder in the Eye.
When a person gets a cinder in his eye the natural impulse is to put the hand to the eye at once. This should not be done, for even the slightest touch on the eyelid may cause the foreign object to become imbedded and difficult to remove. If the hands are resolutely kept away from the face, there is a chance that the tears which come will wash out the offending particle.

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