

fashion fills the void with a toy dog—Nature with a baby. The smart substitute makes no woman happy, and the sooner real old-fashioned motherhood and mothering becomes the rule the better for the nation's happiness, wealth, and well-being."

At a recent meeting of the Brentford Board of Guardians the Infirmary Committee submitted such an excellent report from the Matron on the year's work in the Nursing School, and of the progress of nurses trained in it, that the vice-chairman said he looked upon the work of the Matron, Miss Moriarty, with the greatest pride and satisfaction, and he moved that many hearty thanks be accorded to her for her earnest and painstaking work, a resolution which was carried unanimously.

In a paper presented by Dr. Alfred Worcester before the New England Association for the Education of Nurses, he discusses the advantages of a separate organisation of the training school from that of the hospital, and, although he makes many good points, we do not think his conclusions that such schools should be separate organisations will meet with much support either in the United States or elsewhere. In arguing for separation he says what is quite true: "In America the hospital ownership of its training school is nearly universal. Although many of the hindrances to nursing advance are due to this subservience of the educational to the eleemosynary institution, nevertheless, so firmly is this custom entrenched that even those who recognise its great disadvantages still accept the arrangement as inevitable. It is surely well for those who are interested in the education of nurses to look squarely at all the obstacles thereto. We can then plan to surmount them. Almost all of our hospitals are governed by trustees, who are elected or appointed solely for the efficient and economical management of the hospitals. The nurses' training schools belonging to these hospitals are merely side shows. Whatever interest in them the hospital trustees may have is due only to their anxiety for most efficient and economical nursing service. The resident physician or medical superintendent of the hospital is merely the salaried agent of the trustees. It is his first business to suit them. And the Matron of the hospital and superintendent of the training school is merely one of his assistants."

The obsolete system of making the Matron "merely an assistant" of a medical superintendent has now nearly died out in this country, and the Matron as head of the Nursing Depart-

ment directly responsible to the Committee has given rightful place to the Nursing School in every well-managed hospital. Progress is to be made on these lines, not by separating the one from the other.

A State authorised Central Nursing Board composed of representatives of the three combined interests—nursing, medical, and lay, can alone bring order out of nursing chaos—and all having the patient in foremost mind, organise progressive systems combining theory with practice, co-ordinating nursing with medical treatment, and producing a sound, skilled, useful operative.

The present faulty system, beloved of the anti-registrationist, of allowing every nursing school to "develop on its own lines," indefinitely cannot continue. "The subservience of the educational to the eleemosynary" must go, and so it will as soon as we have State enforced co-operation for defining standards and enforcing discipline.

To quote from the admirable address of Miss Damer the President of the Nurses' Associated Alumnae Annual Meeting at Detroit:—

"As a body of professional women, who have undertaken the task of regulating the status of nurses, it must be our responsibility also to study the whole question of the nurse's education and to take an interest in the future of nurses yet untrained. Our State Registration laws mean more than the registration of past graduates; we must stand for and exact a certain standard of requirements from the schools which are preparing the nurses of the future, a definite and faithfully carried out system of instruction (not merely on paper as a possibility or future hope) by fully equipped and paid instructors, with classes and lectures given at proper hours, with sufficient vacation and hours of rest to keep up the nurse's fitness for her work.

"Many of our schools are now offering better educational advantages, and we as a profession should hold up the hands and give our support to the women at the head of these schools, who are trying to raise them to a true educational standing."

Lady Minto is anxious that English subscriptions to her endowment fund for the Indian Nursing Association should now be forwarded. The first list of donations shows how cordially the scheme is being supported in India. Lord and Lady Minto have opened it with a gift of 5,000 rupees. Cheques can be sent to the credit of the "Countess of Minto's Endowment Fund," care of Messrs. Coutts and Co., Messrs. King and Co., or Messrs. Grindlay and Co., who have consented to receive contributions,

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