

land about fifty years ago. The need of a high grade of medical and nursing attention for mental diseases has, however, never taken deep root in the public mind and the nursing of the cases has never commanded the same quality of service or received the support from the benevolent that have been bestowed upon other forms of illness. The Nightingale movement brought to the nursing of the sick in general a host of high-minded intelligent women who looked upon the work as a vocation. The mentally sick did not come within the scope of this movement and the same class of women did not feel impelled to offer to care for them. The foundation in knowledge of mental diseases and in provision and methods in caring for the cases had, perhaps, at that time scarcely been laid. The work of Dorothea L. Dix and that of Dr. Cowles were probably more suited to the needs of the situation. The consequence has been, however, that the training schools for nurses in connection with the institutions for the insane have developed under different auspices and from different material than the general hospital schools.

The training schools for nurses connected with the public general hospitals were, at first at least, established and supported by private benevolence, and some of them are still detached organisations. In not a single instance, so far as I am aware, has a similar development occurred in connection with a public institution for the insane. In the spread of the movement for general hospital schools, the best of the graduates of the parent schools were employed to establish new centres, and thus the movement spread under nurse auspices. The schools in connection with the institutions for the insane have, on the other hand, developed under medical auspices, and are the outcome of a want which medical superintendents have long felt for better personal service to the patients by the attendants. Dr. Cowles was the first to show what could be accomplished by organising a school on general lines, and by hospitalising the methods of the institution to meet its needs, and others followed gladly in his footsteps. The persons to be trained were, however, only the attendants already employed, and no better material appeared. The physicians had themselves to provide the instruction as best they could, and to this day the grade of intelligence needed for building up an efficient nurse organisation for teaching and supervision has only exceptionally been available. The schools have, however, steadily improved, and with their hospitalisation the facilities for the training of nurses have been vastly increased.

(To be concluded.)

The First "Isla Stewart Scholar."

It will be remembered that the League of St. Bartholomew's Hospital Nurses undertook the responsibility and privilege of giving the first scholarship of £160, and of selecting the first scholar to be appointed, in connection with the memorial to the late Miss Isla Stewart, Matron of St. Bartholomew's Hospital, and Founder and first President of the League. This scholarship, tenable for a year, at Teachers' College, Columbia University, New York, has now been offered to Miss M. S. Rundle, who holds the certificate of St. Bartholomew's Hospital, and for the past year has been Sister-Housekeeper at the Royal Free Hospital, W.C., where she has been entrusted with the entire re-organisation of the Housekeeping Department. Miss Rundle has accepted the honour and will leave for New York next month.

The course for nurses at Teachers' College has now been founded for eleven years. As a result of a paper read before the American Society of Superintendents of Training Schools for Nurses by the late Mrs. Hampton Robb, a committee was appointed to consider the training of teachers of nursing, with the view of bringing about greater uniformity in method. Mrs. Robb, who was made chairman of this Committee, visited the Dean of Teachers' College, asking if some arrangement could be made to admit graduate nurses desiring to prepare themselves for teaching and supervision in training schools for nurses. Largely owing to her forcible presentation of the needs of nursing education, the co-operation of the College with the Superintendents' Society was secured, and the course established.

In December, 1909 Mrs. Helen Hartley Jenkins became interested in the course through Miss Wald, Head of the Nurses' Settlement, New York, and decided to endow the Department of Hospital Economics, in order that it might enlarge its work, carry on its important function of nurses' education with greater efficiency, and develop in new directions, in response to the newer needs of the day. It is under the supervision of Miss M. A. Nutting, Professor of Institutional Administration, Columbia University.

Miss Isla Stewart took a keen interest in this course, and desired the establishment of a similar one in this country. It was felt, therefore, that no more suitable memorial could be established to her memory than to maintain an "Isla Stewart scholar" at Teachers' College, New York, and in this the League of St. Bartholomew's Hospital Nurses has led the way.

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