

have been largely used on account of their cheapness, but balconies are better. The advantages of the balcony are summed up by Dr. I. J. Clarke as follows:—"It is more roomy, secure, and sightly. It opens directly out of the home—a warm room, if you like—where the patient can take his cold sponge bath, dress or undress if desired. It can be made large enough to contain articles of furniture that give it a home-like appearance. The patient can be waited upon and cared for much easier. It is a better protection from hard rains and snow. It gives women better protection from intrusion. It is more cheerful, and enables patients to receive callers under home-like conditions. It gives better ventilation than some tents."

Dr. Pratt says that the statement is often made that tuberculosis cannot be successfully treated at home, but those who hold this view are forgetful of the fact that sanatorium treatment must be followed by home treatment if definite cure is to be effected. If an adequate system of home treatment had been organised in Germany, he thinks that the good results of the sanatorium treatment would have been much more favourable. The reason for the failure of the home treatment in the past is, he believes, lack of supervision and control in the details of the patient's life. To supply the elements lacking in the ordinary home treatment, the first tuberculosis class was organised in connection with Emmanuel Church, Boston. Dr. Pratt saw in his hospital practice men and women dying whose lives might be saved by a little care and money. It seemed to him that here was work for the churches. Dr. Worcester (the Rector of this rich parish), a man of original and independent mind, eager to do all in his power for the sick poor, was willing to make the experiment, and within three months the success of the plan was evident.

In the class method supervision is maintained (1) by the record book, which all patients are required to keep, in which are recorded every detail of their daily life, including temperature and pulse; (2) by the home visitations of the nurse; (3) by the weekly meeting of the class, and the spirit of hope and cheer instilled into the members at the weekly gathering is an important factor. Membership of the class is kept below 25, because one visitor and one physician cannot properly attend to more than 25 patients.

When the signs of active disease have diminished, graduated exercise is given. Except for attending the weekly meeting, taking their daily bath, and going to the table for meals, advanced cases are sometimes allowed no exercise for a year or more.

Prize Giving by Lord Ampthill.

ROYAL INFIRMARY, EDINBURGH.

On Friday, the 7th October, a charming ceremony took place in the Recreation Room of the Nurses' Home, Edinburgh Royal Infirmary, when 21 prizes were distributed by Lord Ampthill, G.C.S.I., G.C.I.E., in connection with the nurses' course of instruction. Lord Provost Brown, who presided, was supported, amongst others, by the Lady Susan Gilmour, Mrs. Brown, Miss Brown, Miss Haldane, Mrs. Kerr, Miss Gill (Lady Superintendent), Mr. W. B. Blaikie, and Colonel Warburton. In welcoming Lord Ampthill the Lord Provost said they were greatly indebted to him for his good offices in the House of Lords for the generous manner in which he had championed the cause of the Registration of Nurses.

PRIZE LIST, 1909-10.

SURGICAL NURSING.

1909.—1st prize, Nurse Duncan; 2nd, Nurse Hamilton; 3rd (equal), Nurses McRae and McMurtrie.

1910.—1st prize, Nurse M. M. Kerr; 2nd, Nurse Lorimer.

GYNÆCOLOGICAL NURSING.

1909.—1st prize, Nurse Wood; 2nd, Nurse Pullar.

1910.—1st prize, Nurse Chapman; 2nd, Nurse Leith.

BANDAGING AND INSTRUMENTS.

Bandaging.

1909.—1st prizes: 1st Division, Nurse McMurtrie; 2nd Division, Nurse M. Bain; 3rd Division, Nurse Williams; 4th Division, Nurse M. Simpson.

Instruments.

1909.—1st Division: 1st prize, Nurse Roy; 2nd, Nurse Aitken. 2nd Division: 1st (equal), Nurse M. T. Kerr and Nurse Gardner.

GENERAL NURSING.

1909.—1st prize, Nurse Aitken; 2nd (equal), Nurses Brydie, M. T. Kerr, and Westwater; 3rd, Nurse Pole.

MEDICAL NURSING.

1909.—1st prize, Nurse Duncan; 2nd, Nurse Chapman.

BACTERIOLOGY.

1909.—1st prize, Nurse Boyd; 2nd, Nurse Swinton.

LORD AMPTHILL'S ADDRESS.

NURSING HEROIC WORK.

After distributing the prizes Lord Ampthill said, in his inspiring address, that times were changing. On the stage men used to impersonate women, but now it was the reverse. Nursing, however, was women's work alone. They required qualities that were in men, such as courage, fortitude, and endurance. These were essential in the nursing profession. The discipline and the general mode of living was new to women, and used to be chiefly associated with men. He was reminded of the wonderful opportunities they would have in the future of bringing succour and relief to suffering humanity; and he was also reminded of the necessary and important position they occupied and the skill and character they required. On the other

[previous page](#)

[next page](#)