

the luckless infants of Mrs. Weakling, under the treatment of this ignoramus, slept all night without waking. Drugged infants will, of course, sleep soundly. Small wonder that all the other children looked white and unhealthy. The eldest was an idiot! The causes are unknown, but who shall say that this woman did not contribute to them in some measure. At any rate, she may be justly impeached with the crime of damaging the tender life of infancy.

Nurse Dale left the house sickened and angry, pondering over the cruelty and power of ignorance. Mrs. Weakling lay in her bed content to have it so.

### Personal Rules for District Nurses.

Writing in the *Queen's Nurses' Magazine* Miss M. Loane gives the following notes for district nurses:

1. Spare no pains to make the first visit to a patient a successful one. Encourage the friends to talk freely, and never ridicule or ignore their attempts to describe the course of the disease. If they hesitate for a word, supply it.
2. Never be the first to speak of religion. The nurse's religion must be shown by acts, not words.
3. Avoid speaking of politics or any controversial matters.
4. Make a point of learning as soon as possible the names, addresses, and occupation of all relatives of your patients who are living in the same town. This simple precaution may save many awkward complications.
5. Never repeat what you hear, or describe what you see or do, or carry information of any kind from one house to another. Even the very persons who try to cross-question you will gratefully appreciate this honourable reticence. The fear that their private affairs will become known to all their neighbours is often the reason why the self-respecting poor are unwilling to admit a district nurse.
6. If obliged to refuse a request, never do it in a peremptory manner, but with a gracious reluctance.
7. Always give the doctors your loyal support. When questioned by patients or their friends as to your opinion of any doctor, say that he understands the case fully and is doing all that can be done. Try to encourage the belief that for all ordinary work one doctor is quite as good as another, and that when there is anything unusual in a case, the doctor will be the first person to suggest consulting a specialist.
8. Be on friendly terms with the ministers of every form of faith, with church workers, district visitors, and all who are trying, in whatever measure or degree, to benefit the poor.
9. Co-operate with the Relieving Officer, the School Board Visitor, and the Sanitary Inspector.
10. Receive courteously everyone who comes to see you. Never make an enemy for yourself or the Association.

### Nurses' Co-Operation 'At-Home.'

The Nurses' Co-operation were At Home at 35, Langham Street, W., on Friday, December 2nd, when the annual exhibition of the Nurses' Needlework Guild was on view in the Club Room. Always a most interesting show, the number of articles exhibited exceeded that of last year by 235, a result upon which Miss Laura Baker, Sister-in-Charge of the Home and Hon. Secretary, is warmly to be congratulated. In all there were 875 articles, all most welcome to patients leaving the care and comfort of a hospital to return to poverty-stricken homes. There were new boots and shoes—always so sorely needed and difficult to obtain—warm suits for boys, men's drawers and vests, shirts in stacks—which, by the bye, a member, a private nurse, rose an hour earlier every morning to make—warm flannel, woollen, and knitted petticoats, hug-me-tights, cardigans, scarves, and a whole stand devoted to the babies, with warm and dainty frocks, hoods, and everything that the heart of mother could desire for her bairns. Miss Gethen, Miss Baker, and many of the staff were kept busy displaying the treasures to the constant stream of visitors, some 200 in all.

The restaurant was fully equal to providing the dainty tea which is always most hospitably dispensed on these occasions.

When the work of packing up began, the great piles of garments rapidly disappeared, to appear again eventually in the store cupboards of the following hospitals:—The London, 50; Guy's, 55; St. Mary's, 50; University College Hospital, 55; Royal Free, 50; Brompton Hospital for Consumption, 50; the West London, 50; West Ham, 50; Prince of Wales's Hospital, Tottenham, 55; Central London Sick Asylum, 55; East End Mothers' Home, 50; St. John's Hospital, Lewisham, 50; the Metropolitan Hospital, 50; Nazareth House, 55; the British Lying-in Hospital, 50; Clapham Maternity Hospital, 50; and the Children's Convalescent Home, Broadstairs, 50. And all this as the result of a Society with a sixpenny subscription, the members of which undertake to make at least one garment annually. The members are all nurses, but associates are welcome also, and they pay a shilling annually, and provide two garments. The money in hand when expenses are paid is expended in boots, and boys' suits, and gifts for this purpose are most welcome. We hope that the Christmas of these busy workers will be the happier for the happiness they will bring into the homes of the poor.

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