

Thus, perhaps, the child has its first experience of a pure, clean, body and raiment, and if then the careworn, overburdened mother would continue the work thus begun for her, what a difference it would make to the health and strength of her little ones; but, alas! not only once, but twice and three times, has the process to be gone through before the fact filters through the bedrugged and ignorant minds of our present day mothers, that neglect of cleanliness is cruelty.

This is no instance of "Where ignorance is bliss, etc.," but where little by little the children of today are taught how they may be good mothers and fathers in the future, as, in loving cleanliness themselves, it may become second nature to the children of the next generation.

A. G. L.

Progress of State Registration.

STATE REGISTRATION IN NEW ZEALAND.

The Report on Hospitals and Charitable Aid in the Dominion of New Zealand, by Dr. T. H. A. Valintine, the Inspector-General of Hospitals and Charitable Institutions, presented to both Houses of the General Assembly, states that 882 trained nurses are on the Register. Last year 112 trained nurses were registered, 89 of whom were trained in the Dominion and 23 were registered on over-sea certificates.

In a note addressed to Hospital Committees, the Inspector-General states that "an officer is only worth keeping so long as he *knows* that he has something to learn. The 'indispensable' officer does not exist; at any rate, no institution can afford to retain him."

Another statement worthy of note is: "It is a significant fact that some of the best managed "Homes" (for the comfort and care of the aged) are controlled by women, and it is to be hoped that Boards will gradually replace the 'Master-Manager' and his wife by Matrons, who, as trained nurses, have had experience of men and women and the management of institutions.

In conclusion, the Inspector-General directs the attention of those interested in the training of nurses and midwives and the conduct of Maternity Hospitals to the appended report of the Assistant Inspector, Miss Maclean, and takes the opportunity to specially thank Miss Maclean for relieving him of much work in connection with the St. Helen's Hospitals and Nurses and Midwives Registration Acts.

THE NURSES REGISTRATION ACT.

In her report on the administration of the Nurses Registration Act, Miss Maclean states

that the receipts of fees for examination and registration were £94, and the expenses in connection with examiners' and supervisors' fees £212. This is interesting to those who are promoting legislation, as pointing to the necessity for providing for fees which will cover expenses.

Miss Maclean also writes: "A very excellent innovation in the training of our future nurses will be made possible by the combination under one Hospital Board of the various institutions of a district. The chief hospital of the district will be the training school. All the pupils will be on the roll of that hospital, and will serve part of their term of training in a Consumptive Sanatorium or Fever Hospital, a Chronic Ward, a Cottage or Emergency Hospital.

"The varied experience of working in these different institutions (which should all be under the supervision of one Matron) will be of great benefit to the nurses, and there will not be so many girls who cannot be qualified for State registration, or who, if they can get sufficient teaching in a Cottage Hospital to come up for examination and be registered, are still of limited experience.

"It will be like one large hospital, the outside institutions being so many detached wards, to which a nurse is sent on duty for a certain period, no pupil being allowed to spend more than six months out of her three years away from the main hospital.

"The post-graduate training of our future Matrons will also be greatly aided by a term in charge of outside institutions. The work will not be so monotonous, and nurses will be enabled to keep up their knowledge of up-to-date surgery by returning, after a year as Sister-in-Charge of a Cottage Hospital, to charge of a hospital ward again. The staffing of the small hospitals and chronic and other institutions will no longer be a difficulty, as young women will be satisfied that they will get adequate training and experience.

"During the passage of the Hospitals and Charitable Institutions Act, a clause regulating the hours of nurses in training was incorporated in the Act. Fortunately," says Miss Maclean, "the eight hours limit was confined to the pupils of the hospitals of 100 beds. . . . The nurses of the Dominion protested strongly against the inclusion of the registered nurses in such limitation of their hours of work. They considered as professional women, whose work concerned the sick and suffering, they should be at liberty to work for longer hours when needed by the exigencies of their patients."

All good nurses the world over will heartily support this demand.

[previous page](#)

[next page](#)