

visions for the proper care of the patient demand that nurses shall have had their preparation before being introduced into a field of the work requiring special knowledge. A nurse who has never even assisted at an operation upon the eye cannot, certainly, be detailed as the surgeon's chief nurse, nor one who has experienced no post-partum work in obstetrics be given the care of such cases.

Having discussed both the special and affiliating school, the point has been reached where we may very properly consider the matter of agreement between them. That there should be a definite form goes without saying, but what are the essentials that should be covered by a contract or agreement? (The latter has a pleasanter sound.) Such agreement should state curriculum, specify purpose, state definitely all requirements as to length of course, entrance periods, conditions of obtaining admission, and those upon which pupils remain, instruction, discipline, etc.

To again refer to the matter of discipline, this can never be successfully conducted where the spirit of confidence, understanding, and co-operation does not exist between the affiliating schools. If the affiliating school *includes* the *diploma* of the special course in its own the question would appear capable of very easy solution, but, on the other hand, the special school must exercise some forbearance, and not be too ready to "use the club." Neither should the act of the special school, when extreme measures are clearly indicated, be final until abundant opportunity has been furnished both schools to thoroughly arbitrate upon the matter.

When failures, misdemeanours, and incompetencies manifest themselves, an immediate report should be made to the affiliating school, with a written statement of any special occurrence, on the part of the nurse, thereby giving the home principal an opportunity to see the question in all its phases. This is not to be understood as an opportunity for the nurses to air grievances, but merely to make a plain, accurate statement of what occurred, without any comment, which statement is naturally to pass through the hands of the principal of the special school. In this manner co-operation is obtained, and probably, very few calls are made for radical measures.

While the return of a pupil nurse in the midst of her course involves many difficulties, this very fact tends to reduce the question to the greatest good for the greatest number, and nurses, realising how extended the results of failures on their part are, will hesitate long before precipitating crises.

I cannot see how it is possible to conduct

affiliation for the important specialties without including the diploma of the special school in the nurse's legal right to practise nursing, as it would seem unfair to ask a nurse to spend one, two, or three months in special work, and give her nothing to show for it. This very point also provides a solution to the question of discipline from the point of view of both schools as nothing else could.

Every special hospital should issue a printed circular of information which will convey to those seeking affiliation a comprehensive idea of all that will be expected of the nurses in the matter of uniform, hours of duty, questions that are determined by locality, and any and all points that should be fully understood, thus promoting satisfaction for all concerned.

Before making an agreement each school should acquaint itself with the other—the special ascertaining the status of the one seeking affiliation, declining any schools which are lacking in progressive aims, but, on the other hand, not making conditions beyond the reach of the earnest, energetic school.

It was my purpose to include a form of agreement in this paper, but, because the question is so far from having taken satisfactory shape, it was not deemed best to do so. It would be interesting to hear from schools having such forms already in use.

THE RED CROSS AND STREET SERVICE.

The City of London detachment of the Red Cross has been allowed to volunteer for street service in the city on June 23rd, and will be stationed close to the Mansion House.

The men of the detachment will wear dark suits, and the women dark blue or black coats and skirts, and will carry haversacks and water-bottles. They will also wear a badge bearing the City arms, by which the police can readily recognise them.

THE REGISTERED NURSES' SOCIETY.

On June 29th, the day on which the King and Queen attend the thanksgiving service at St. Paul's Cathedral, and afterwards lunch at the Guildhall, the return journey is to be made through the boroughs of North London and the West End. The procession will pass the offices of the Registered Nurses' Society, 431, Oxford Street, W., in the afternoon. All nurses on the staff of the Society who wish to see the procession, and are able to do so, will therefore have a fine view of it from their offices. Tea will be provided for them on that afternoon, and Sister Cartwright will be obliged if those who hope to be present will let her know by the 28th inst.

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