

7. *Special visiting-nurse work under Health Departments* in the control of scarlet fever, measles, diphtheria and trachoma.

8. *Teachers of Hygiene* in schools, to instruct children on general hygiene, and also on the hygiene of sex. Nurses had also often given talks of a practical nature to teachers in public schools, and they were called on continually to teach mothers' classes and clubs on general and sex hygiene. Their services were also called for in social centres, such as clubs, playgrounds, &c., for similar teaching.

9. *School Visitors*.—This meant a special kind of work, done in conference with and by request of the teachers, to solve special problems and reach special cases by going back to the home surroundings. It was a work requiring great tact and understanding.

10. *Inspection of Tenement House or General Housing Conditions*.—For this nurses were especially suitable after they had taken special training.

11. *Secretarial Work for Associations*.—Nurses made most excellent and efficient working secretaries for Children's Aid Societies, Societies to Prevent Blindness, &c. The work of agent under charitable societies was also well done by them.

12. *Investigations on Special Lines*.—Notable work had been done in making original researches and gathering material for report on committees of inquiry into social conditions. Such work was usually done for some Association, but it might be done independently and its results published, or given to the public in lectures. There was no reason why large societies of nurses should not carry on such work. The best done yet on such lines had been in connection with midwifery, preventable blindness, and almshouse conditions.

The whole number of Associations in the United States employing nurses in social service was 1,042, and the number of nurses employed by these Associations 2,777.

THE CROWN OF THE NURSING PROFESSION.

Sister Agnes Karll said that if, as has been claimed, the care of the poor was the crown of deaconess work, surely social work should be that of the nursing profession. Social work might be regarded as the extension of parish nursing, and in so far as it pertained to bodily safety and health, a thorough training as a nurse should be a preliminary condition. At present this conception was little appreciated in Germany, and would only slowly take root, as the intellectual development of nurses in regard to social work had hitherto been of the slightest. That which religious institutions furnished by practical demonstration should now be within reach of secular nurses, all the more as these religious bodies were no longer able to supply the ever-increasing demand made on them. The care of inebriates had become a newly specialised branch which required an even higher moral force than that brought to

bear on the struggle with tuberculosis. Not only were bacilli, stupidity and ignorance to be encountered but hereditary moral taint and weakness of will, which so often were the origin of the fatal drinking habit.

Another link in the endless chain was the school nurse or sister, the natural sequence of the appointment of school doctors. She was the connecting link between doctor, school and family. The duties consisted in being present at the doctor's consulting hours, visiting the families and seeing that neither through ignorance nor want of means his orders were neglected. A well-trained nurse was invaluable in many branches—home nursing, itinerant teaching, &c.

The office of female controller of a sick fund was rare and yet—her eye sharpened by long years of observation—a sister would be of great use in detecting cases of simulation and thus lessening the claims made on the fund. An experienced nurse was doubtless highly eligible for the post of female house inspector. Her supervision in the disinfection of houses would be invaluable.

Sister Karll then said: "A personal experience in a house where I lived for twenty years shows me how valuable a nurse's experience in these cases is. On the death of a consumptive seamstress, I drew the house porter's attention to the fact that the dwelling must be disinfected, and received the answer that it would be unnecessary, as it was 'only to be let as a workshop.' The upholstered furniture of the deceased had been bought on the credit system. Not having been paid for, the furniture was to be returned, and the few remaining pots and pans were to be sold by auction towards paying the rent. Thus bacilli were being scattered wholesale. To simplify matters, I sent a card to the district police, and disinfection at once followed. As I had once given my services as nurse gratis in this case, I knew the dwelling, and on passing looked in to see how the work of disinfection had been carried out. In a closet I found a bundle of clothes, dirty towels and handkerchiefs, quite beyond the reach of the formalin fumes. An energetic telephonic communication resulted in the clothes being taken away for disinfection. This shows that a woman's eye is often needed to achieve a speedy and thorough result."

A modern institution was the hotel, store and ship nurse. In some hotels and on some ships there was a hospital room. This was not only for the convenience of the guests, but also for the staff, slight accidents, &c., being frequent. In provision stores a nurse as inspector might often be a preventive of hygienic abuses. Factories now had nurses who cared for the employees. The duties of this branch were most varied. In mines where only men were employed the duties were principally the care of the disabled, the widows and the poor, superintendence of home nursing, lending of baby clothes, &c., a sewing

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