

scious, unconscious, feverish, collapsed, and report as necessary.

Take notice of any rash, wounds, bruises, paralysis, defective speech, or any other sign of abnormality, report the same, and make notes for reference.

Inspect patients' hair and report if not clean, and free from nits and pediculi, also report discharges of any kind.

Note and report deafness, defective sight, any signs of insanity, burns, or blisters, or any skin affections, swellings on any part of the body; in fact, the smallest defect should be noted and reported to the doctor on his next visit.

Miss Stokes mentions deformities, bruises, bedsores, and ruptures amongst the things to be noted and reported at once, as these may have been overlooked by the patient's friends, who may cause a great deal of unpleasantness by saying that they were not there on admission. Rashes should be immediately reported. With children it is a frequent occurrence to find ringworm or scabies or other contagious skin eruptions. These call for special attention, and care must be taken to keep the child's comb, brush, and clothing separate, or otherwise an epidemic may be the result.

Miss Cullen says: "I should first of all notice the general aspect of the patient, whether he looked ill, if he was cyanosed or breathing badly, and also note how he was brought in, whether he was carried in on a stretcher or chair, or walked in. All these points must be carefully observed, as such observations help towards the next steps to take."

Miss A. Rhind mentions:—For identification and reference verify admission ticket as to name and age. Take address—home address or address of nearest relatives. It is also usual to take the patient's present address.

These particulars are usually obtained from the friends accompanying the patient; failing these, from the patient. If no friends are present and the patient is not in a fit condition to give any information, attempts must be made to identify the patient from personal belongings, clothes, letters, note-books, lining of hat or cap. Tattoo marks sometimes help.

Many of the papers are very interesting, and prove that many nurses realize that the reception of a patient into a ward is not a simple matter, but that trained observation, alertness, tact, and kindness are requisite in nurses in the discharge of this duty.

QUESTION FOR NEXT WEEK

Enumerate the principal physical, mental, and moral qualifications in a trained nurse?

THE TRAINED WOMEN NURSES' FRIENDLY SOCIETY.

On Saturday, July 27th, at a meeting of members summoned for the purpose, the Trained Women Nurses' Friendly Society was formally inaugurated.

Mrs. Bedford Fenwick presided, and after briefly explaining the objects of the meeting, invited Miss M. Mollett, Provisional Hon. Secretary, to present a report. Miss Mollett reported that the Society had been approved by the National Insurance Commissioners, and then explained the present position, and in regard to proposed benefits, said that the Provisional Committee made no proposal to vary the statutory benefits at first. If after a time there was a surplus, and experience had been gained as to the most desirable alternative benefit, it would be then open to the members to adopt it.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS.

The Chairman then announced the nominations of the Executive Committee for the positions of officers, but said it was open to any member to make other nominations. The following officers were unanimously elected:—

President—Mrs. Bedford Fenwick.

Vice-President—Mrs. Paston Brown, Chairman of Kingston Board of Guardians.

Trustees—Miss E. M. Waind, Lady Superintendent, Galen House, Guildford.

Mr. H. W. Maynard, late Director Union-Castle Line.

Mr. H. Dixon Kimber, of the firm of Messrs. Kimbers & Boatman, Solicitors, Lombard Street.

Treasurer—Mr. T. W. Craig.

Secretary—Miss M. Mollett.

Miss Mollett explained that she was quite willing to act as Secretary for a time and see the thing through, but she was afraid she could not undertake the position permanently. She had only recently entered into partnership with a friend who was unwilling to move nearer London. She was therefore elected on this understanding.

THE TREASURER'S SPEECH.

Mr. T. W. Craig said that personally he had been interested for many years in nursing and nurses, and it was an additional pleasure to him to help this Society. He was in sympathy with the principle of insurance, and always encouraged everyone to insure, and he believed the advantages offered to nurses by the Trained Women Nurses' Friendly Society were superior to any other. No other society, so far as he knew, offered them the advantages of professional association, through which they could maintain the status of membership. In the insurance world the difficulty was always to eliminate the inferior element. It was up to the members of this Society to secure nurses standing well professionally, and with good lives from the insurance standpoint. He therefore advised each member to induce a friend to join

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