

from an entirely selfish point of view, I venture to say the day *will* come when the trained nurse will be scarce and hard to come by.

I think when we consider the arduous life of a nurse, with so little time for recreation, the greatest credit is due to those who have got up this Exhibition. I feel sure we shall all find it most interesting and instructive. I hope the Exhibition itself will bring home to the public mind what a wide sphere of usefulness is open to the trained nurse.

I have now much pleasure in declaring the Exhibition open, and in wishing it every success.

Mrs. Bedford Fenwick then voiced the feelings of every one present in offering in the name of the National Council of Trained Nurses, as its President, its thanks to the Lady Mayoress for her gracious act in opening the Exhibition. No nurse, she said, could have listened to her without realising how well she understood the aspirations of trained nurses, who desired the public to understand their work better. She felt sure that when the Lady Mayoress made the tour of the Exhibition at the conclusion of the opening ceremony and inspected the practical exhibits of the nurses, as well as the scientific products of the exhibiting firms, which were indispensable to nurses, that she would feel she had most justly described their work.

In conveying to the Lady Mayoress the sincere thanks of the National Council, Mrs. Fenwick asked her acceptance of a copy of its official organ, *THE BRITISH JOURNAL OF NURSING*, which week by week voiced its hopes and aspirations.

The vote of thanks was seconded by Miss A. E. Hulme, Hon. Secretary of the Matrons' Council, and warmly acclaimed.

The Lady Mayoress and officers of the Conference then made a tour of inspection, the banners, in the hands of Sister Bailey, Sister Keen, Sister Bedford, of the General Hospital, and Sister Morgan, of the Women's Hospital, forming a centre of colour and beauty on the platform.

COMPETITION PRIZES.

Much interest centred in the award of the prizes offered in the various competitions, and in the course of the afternoon the winners were announced, the names being inscribed on charming cards printed in black and red.

AWARDED BY THE BRITISH JOURNAL OF NURSING.

1. *Prize of £3 3s. for the most instructive Nursing Exhibit sent by a League of Nurses.* The General Hospital, Birmingham, Nurses' League.

The central idea of this exhibit was to demonstrate the training received by a probationer by a series of models, the first lesson being that cleanliness is necessary to health. The embryo nurse is seen scrubbing her hands, next she is depicted making poultices and preparing food for the sick. On a table are seen the albumen water and barley water which have been prepared. Another beautiful little model shows her learning the care and hygiene of the sick room, including dusting and bed-making. Next is shown the care

of the patients, lifting, bed-making, &c. Then follows the padding of splints and the treatment of fractures, and a miniature patient is seen in a box splint slung in a cradle, while the making of a splint and the drawing out of the tow is wonderfully clever. Next comes the preparation of surgical dressings, and the care of operation patients, the making of plaster bandages, and a patient prepared for the operating theatre with a nurse in attendance is shown.

Various methods of treatment, such as giving hot air baths, the raising of the foot of a bed on blocks, are shown.

The model of a children's ward gives the opportunity for insisting on the need for observation.

Next is shown a maternity ward demonstrating the additional qualification obtainable.

Nothing could exceed the daintiness of the model operating theatre in which the nurses are shown as paying the attention to cleanliness in minutest details. The operating table, the provision for sterilizing instruments, the wee drainage tubes, catgut, and ligatures are marvels of deft work—nothing is forgotten, down to the oxygen.

Perhaps one of the most bewitching of these interesting models is the Out-patient Department. The little crowd of patients, the blue-uniformed police with a stretcher case, and the white-coated house surgeon, with an armful of splints, are to the life.

X-ray treatment and diagnosis by means of the radiograph were the subject of another group, the next proclaimed additional certificates may be gained for massage, medical gymnastics and treatment by electricity, and there was a model of hanging exercise for spinal curvature, and of tonic medication for sciatica. Next came the nurse when off duty resting and reading, and finally the Matron presenting a much-coveted certificate. The kitchen was not forgotten and we were reminded that those who aspire to Matrons' posts must gain experience in administration, catering and supervision of servants.

It is impossible to convey the perfection of this exhibit in every minute detail, whether in the tiny nickel-plated instruments, the wonderful little charts or the original ideas developed, the work was wonderful, and besides being a thing of beauty is a striking object lesson to the public of the comprehensive nature of the training a nurse should receive.

2. *Prize of £2 2s. for the most useful invention by a nurse for the comfort of the sick.*—This was gained by Miss Austin and Miss Norrish for a leg sling for the elevation of a leg. It is useful in cases of phlebitis, and the cleverly arranged webbing straps can be easily adjusted to afford the greatest support and comfort to the patient.

3. *The Prize of £1 1s. for the best group of three dolls, in any uniform,* was gained by Miss Bodley, Matron of the Selly Oak Infirmary. She sent a Sister in blue, a probationer in pink, and a third nurse in the dark green outdoor uniform worn by the nurses at the Infirmary.

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