

STANDARD CURRICULUM FOR SCHOOLS OF NURSING.

THE RELATION OF HOSPITAL AND TRAINING SCHOOL ORGANIZATION AND ADMINISTRATION TO THE CURRICULUM.

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FEES AND ALLOWANCES. SCHOLARSHIPS.

An increasing number of representative schools are discontinuing money allowances to pupils, and devoting the funds so released to building up their educational system; some have gone further, and require a tuition fee for the preparatory period of training, and at least one school requires such fees for the entire course. Where this policy has been introduced it has, we are told, always been accompanied by a radical improvement in the course of study, and the tendency has been to increase rather than decrease the number of desirable applicants.

In regard to scholarships, it is recommended that they might well be awarded to exceptionally well qualified candidates unable to incur the modest personal expenses of the training period, as well as to those desiring further study in some special branch.

THE FACULTY OF THE SCHOOL.

Attention is called to the double function of the training school officers (faculty of the school) who are responsible for the whole scheme of instruction and training, which is essentially an educational function; and also for the efficient administration and supervision of the nursing service of the hospital, and frequently of the housekeeping service as well, which are administrative functions.

"It is hardly necessary to say that the woman who is to direct the education and training of nurses, and to direct also the nursing service of a hospital, even of moderate size, and under the least exacting conditions, must be herself an educated woman. It is not enough that she should be a well-trained nurse with varied experience, and also a reliable and trustworthy woman. These two considerations are indispensable. Nor is she to be considered qualified because she is a good business manager. . . . It is imperative that the director of a school of nursing which undertakes to prepare young women for one of the most important of modern professions should have a sound educational background, and a broad point of view, so that she will be able not only to maintain satisfactorily already established standards, but to work out new methods, and

new educational policies in accordance with the needs of the times."

The "instructor," who is an important member of the Faculty, must have a wide practical experience in all the branches she teaches, and, in addition, some experience and training in teaching is almost essential. She must also possess the ability to "get the subject over" to her pupils. We are further reminded that all good teaching requires time for preparation.

STANDARDS OF ENTRANCE TO SCHOOLS OF NURSING.

The educational standard to be required of applicants is evidence of graduation from a four-year high school, or its equivalent. "Nursing schools should secure the co-operation of high school principals and teachers in urging girls who are interested in nursing to complete the full high school course, and in advising them regarding the best selection of pre-nursing subjects.

STANDARDS AND METHODS OF GOOD TEACHING.

Where good teaching is being done the pupils are interested in their work, doing real live thinking for themselves, and not simply memorising facts, and they show ability to systematize and classify their ideas. Further, "good teaching is shown by the degree of self-reliance, initiative, and resourcefulness developed in the pupils, and their ability to adapt and apply their knowledge in new situations. The kind of teaching which substitutes tradition and authority for inquiry and investigation, which discourages mental activity and free self-expression, and which destroys originality and initiative, is no longer accepted as good in any branch of education."

The admission of classes is also discussed, and twice yearly appears to be the arrangement advocated.

UNIVERSITY AFFILIATIONS.

The advantages of University affiliations are also pointed out. Precisely those essentials in all educational work which the hospital finds it most difficult to supply are freely available in every college or university of good standing.

This section of the Report concludes with an exhaustive list of references on nursing education and teaching.

THE COURSE OF STUDY.

The Committee on Education of the National League of Nursing Education lay down the length of the Course of Study as three calendar years, divided into the preparatory or first year, the junior or second year, and the senior or

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