that the public service demands, without adequate financial support. It has been too long sustained by the grace of the hospital the pupil serves. The hospital has profited by the arrangement in too many instances; the schools have starved under it."

A REAL GLIMPSE INTO THE SOUL OF THE REFORM MOVEMENT.

"A real glimpse into the soul of this reform movement can only be had by an examination into the hospital schools and nursing departments, and into the professional and personal ideals which are being fostered in the individual student. These will vary directly with the character and preparation of the heads selected for these schools. This is only another way of emphasising the urgent need for the stimulation of the education of nurses as administrators, teachers and leaders. . . .

"Few attempts are recorded as yet this year to place the nursing schools of hospitals on a sound financial basis. . . . With the exception of the university schools, from no part of the country has appeared any satisfactory account of the separation of the budget of the school of nursing from that of the hospital. It may be that the first step in this direction is the proper monetary evolution of the so-called laboratory work of the student nurse in hospital and the giving of the student actual cash for her services, as is done in the shops where co-operative students from engineering colleges work, the student in turn to be charged for room, board, laundry and tuition. Perhaps this is the shortest road to nursing education reform. Perhaps hospital trustees will thus come to see the problem more rapidly and clearly. The plan of alternating periods of study with periods of practice, similar to that followed in the co-operative engineering courses, has stood severe tests for six years in the School of Nursing and Health of the University of Cincinnati.

CENTRALISED TRAINING SCHOOLS.

"There is unquestionably in our midst a strong movement towards centralisation in nursing education... This is the natural outcome of experiments and expedients of the war period, and marks a stage of development which has its counterpart in other professions... The nursing services of four of the leading hospitals in Minneapolis are now controlled for educational purposes by the University of Minnesota, and this year this University School of Nursing boasts the largest registration of any school of nursing in America.

America.

"Two years ago in Cleveland a plan of centralisation was projected which this year shows signs of rapidly going into effect. This plan provides for having all the classes in science and as many other classes as possible in the various hospital schools of nursing taught in a central place under the supervision of the University; and to have the work of such grade that the University shall recognise it by giving a definite amount of credit for it. The department of nursing education founded in the

College of Women in Western Reserve University represents the beginning of what Cleveland hopes will develop into a University School of Nursing.

PRELIMINARY COURSES.

"One outstanding activity of the year has been the experiment carried out in Philadelphia in centralising the teaching of the preliminary courses in its schools of nursing. It was sponsored by a number of important nursing organisations, and the Course given was as outlined by the National League of Nursing Education. The experiment opened in February, 1922, with sixty-six students, and was considered so satisfactory that it was continued for the entering classes in the autumn with changes and additions, such as a budget of approximately 10,000 dollars and a director. Twelve of Philadelphia's forty-five training schools participated, and 126 students were enrolled.

"Philadelphia gives as one of its strongest

"Philadelphia gives as one of its strongest reasons for this experiment in centralisation the impossibility of its forty-five nursing schools all securing trained teachers

securing trained teachers.

"Several announcements of affiliations of nursing schools with colleges and universities have been made during the year.

have been made during the year.

"The University Schools of Nursing in Minnesota and Cincinnati, because of their excellent facilities, have found it possible to offer courses for the advanced preparation of administrators and teachers of pursing

and teachers of nursing.

"There is abundant evidence on every hand that hospitals maintaining schools of nursing are awakening to their educational responsibilities to the student nurse.

to the student nurse.

"That there is an increasing recognition of the need for training for every nurse in contagious diseases, mental and nervous diseases, and in tuberculosis, is evident. An encouraging number of schools report affiliations arranged for their students in these long neglected services."

Mention is made of the progress which the new nursing schools in Europe have made. These schools in Prague (Czecho-Slovakia), Constantinople (Turkey), Posen and Warsaw (Poland) were established after the war with the assistance of the American Red Cross, and are now under the supervision of the American Red Cross Nursing Service.

SIGNIFICANT HONOUR FOR MISS NUTTING.

The happiest event of the year in nursing, significant of its place and progress, was the granting by Yale University of the honorary degree of Master of Arts to Miss Mary Adelaide Nutting, Professor of Nursing at Columbia University. In conferring the degree upon Miss Nutting, the great University, through its spokesman, declared her to be "One of the most useful women in the world." A great honour, fittingly bestowed. To Miss Nutting's far-seeing leadership and her undaunted perseverance, may be credited the initiation of many of the reforms in nursing which promise to be most far-reaching.

previous page next page