

dishes to high temperatures were used throughout the hospital, and 90 per cent. said that ordinary dishpan or sink methods were used in most departments, sterilisation being attempted only in the contagious disease department, and with isolated cases in general medical and surgical divisions, in nurseries, and in some hospitals, in the pediatric department.

Floyd and Frothingham produced tuberculosis in guinea pigs with injections of the warm water from dishes and dish towels. On the basis of their findings they advocated the boiling of dishes for several minutes in all restaurants and in homes where there were infections. The Sanitary Code of New York City contains the following regulations: "All utensils used in the preparation, service and sale of any food or drink intended for human consumption, and all knives, forks, spoons, plates, dishes, cups, saucers, glasses, used in the preparation, service and sale of any food or drink, shall be properly cleansed. Properly cleansed shall be taken to mean cleansing after use in a solution of soap and soda, or suitable cleansing powder, in hot water followed by a thorough rinsing or spraying or immersion in clean boiling water of a temperature not less than 180 degrees Fahrenheit." If sterilisation of dishes is required in all places where food is for sale and public consumption, how can failure to carry out this practice throughout hospitals be justified?

FINAL TENNIS MATCHES.

A large gathering of interested spectators assembled in the grounds at St. Alfege's Hospital, Greenwich, S.E., on Saturday, July 27th, to witness the Final Tennis Matches of the competition for the Ross Cup and the Barrie Lambert Cup, where they were received and made welcome by the Matron, Miss S. Millward.

THE ROSS CUP.

The Ross Cup, inaugurated in honour of the late Miss Euphemia Ross, for many years Matron of the Western Fever Hospital (M.A.B.), open for competition among the special hospitals of the London County Council, was the first final to be played on July 27th, when the North-Western Hospital team, Miss Birch and Miss Shaw, beat the Northern Hospital, Miss Fisher and Miss McLaren.

THE BARRIE LAMBERT CUP.

The Barrie Lambert Cup, a singles tennis Cup, presented by Dr. Barrie Lambert to encourage greater competition, and under the control of the L.C.C., has been won for the first time by Miss Ludbrook, of St. James's Hospital, Balham, who, in competing with Miss Baker, representing Bethnal Green Hospital, put up a hard fight, winning by 8-7, 8-6.

Dr. Barrie Lambert, in presenting the Ross and the Barrie Lambert Cups to the winning teams, expressed her admiration of the first-class tennis which all present had witnessed. She congratulated the L.C.C. nurses on their fine play and said it was her dream that one day the L.C.C. Nursing Service would be the finest in the world. She thought this dream would come true much sooner than she could ever have imagined, judging from the examination results of nurses; their high standard of efficiency was staggering, and she considered they were indebted to the splendid work of the Matrons and Sister-Tutors, for this remarkable advance in nursing progress.

The guests then ascended by the beautiful terraces, richly bordered with lavender, flowers and shrubs of every description, leading to the Nurses' Home, where tea and ices were served in the quaintly paved court.

ELDERLY NURSES.

"Nursing is a fine art and requires much training," G. Lansbury says in "My England." He also says something about nurses working "six hours a day and six days a week," but that is in the dim distant future.

I am thinking of the elderly nurse who was trained a quarter of a century ago, even then she required much training and would be at least 25 years of age when she had finished that training.

Nurses are blessed in that they are doing the work they love—if they do not love nursing they should not waste their time in being trained—one writer said he could not understand why he should be paid for writing because he would write even if he never received a penny, he loved writing. There are many nurses in the same case, but there are many more who having no income of their own must be paid, and must try to save for the time when they can no longer nurse the sick.

It would be a merciful dispensation of Providence if we nurses could between the ages of 30 and 40 have a birthday every other year. One of my friends used to survey her birthday presents and if she were pleased with them she was a year older than on her last birthday, if she were only moderately pleased her age remained stationary and if they were a poor lot she took a year off her age, by this method she usually took 15 years to grow 10 years older, which was a good thing, for nurses should always appear to be 30 something, if less than 30 they cannot have had much experience and if over 40 they are out of date.

I remember one of my patients asking his doctor "What has become of the nurse I had when I had that smash 10 years ago, the one with the lovely auburn hair?" "Oh, I remember her, a Scotch woman, capital nurse, but she must be much too old for nursing now, I have not seen her for some years."

I asked my patient later what age this nurse would be? he said, "I know she was younger than I and I am not fifty," so I made up my mind to remain under 40 for as long as possible, but sooner or later one gets to be 50 and worse still, look it, and few there are who can have saved enough on which to retire, they must still earn money and still save, but how? Two I know are enjoying life running a little teahouse. Two more lost all they possessed and all they could borrow on a teahouse.

When I realised that I was too old for nursing I set about looking for work that would allow me to go to bed every night in the year. I tried several things. I cannot say I was a star performer in any of them—I earned my living that was all.

At last I took a post as Nurse-Companion to two ladies in the sixties, one quite deaf, the other very deaf. Neither brilliant mentally, neither could they be classed as mentally deficient. A niece wrongly named Patience lives with them, does the housekeeping, manages their servants and their business affairs, the only thing they do for themselves is to spend their dress allowance. They do know they allow Patience £200 a year, but they don't know how much they pay their maids. They sign cheques and trust Patience and their solicitor to do their best for them. They are very lonely ladies, because it is so difficult for them to understand other people and not easy for other people to understand them. All their lives they have had some one to take them out. Never have they taken a 'bus journey alone. They have very few relations and the few they have they don't like including Patience. They are both great walkers, but neither possess any road sense. I go out with one in the morning and the other in the afternoon. One likes to walk quickly, the other slowly, so

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