

present system if nursing education is to be brought up to a level which will compare favourably with professional education in other fields.

"When thinking of the ratio of professional nurses to the population in China, it seems far inadequate in comparison with the number of nurses in other countries. But we are now facing two most serious nursing problems which are confronting us to-day. They are the over production and the under-education. Sometimes we have a number of nurses out of work, while many nursing positions remain unfilled for lack of nurses with good preparation. The proverb says: "It is easy to find one thousand soldiers, but hard to find a good General." This same rule is true of all professions. We nurses must keep in mind the quantity as well as the quality. There are two most important factors that we should consider seriously. They are (1) the education of nurses and (2) the opening of new fields for them to work in.

"Let us consider, for a moment, what this transfer from the apprentice system to one more educationally sound would really mean. In the first place, it would necessitate the organisation of schools of nursing as separate entities or units apart from the nursing services of the hospitals, so that the two distinct functions of educating student nurses and providing nursing care for the sick could be carried forward without seriously interfering with the other. From the standpoint of organisation this is an entirely feasible plan. It has been worked out successfully by medical schools and also other schools. The only limiting factor in making this plan effective is, as I see it, lack of adequate funds and I believe that in time this handicap, serious as it may seem to-day, can be overcome through the co-operative efforts of all groups concerned. The Central Board of Nursing Education has been very active on the registration of schools, the standard curriculum and scholarships offered to post graduate courses, both in teaching and in public health nursing. In such ways we

must provide the equivalent of a good background for general nursing education. The content of the curriculum and the teaching method should be carefully studied. In this way, the professional education of the nurse will reach a high level, the practical work will be effective, and the demand of the future will be satisfactorily supplied.

"When we come to the problem of employment, the responsibility is not such a simple one. There are so many factors that are related to the political, social and economic conditions of the country. A nurse must be a well-educated person to fill an ever-increasing need in the medical and health fields. He or she should not only be well prepared professionally, but should also possess a thorough knowledge of the best methods of developing amicable community relations, because our service is essentially of the community, and we need its support and good will. It will

naturally take a superior person, with adequate preparation, to provide these diverse qualifications. However, we still find some of the unqualified people in the field. They cannot be expected to make any marked contribution to general progress, or even do their own specific job well, and they have also made some serious mistakes. Some of the people may spend more time thinking about their jobs, and what they can get out of life, rather than what they can render to the public and humanity in general. Progress lies in evolution, in revision of service. These changes and revisions, however, should be carefully weighed and considered, before they are set before the public.

"Under the present social and economic conditions of our country, more than 85 per cent. of our population is in the rural districts, where medical and nursing care are still almost unknown. In every direction, we find that nurses are greatly needed in the rural areas. Is it not time that we nurses should share our knowledge of health? Should we not provide an environment in which we are able to teach positive health to the people? Should we be content until adequate nursing service is available for every man, woman and child, anywhere and everywhere, in our great nation?"

The Report of the General Secretaries.

Registration of Schools of Nursing with the Ministry of Education.—The changes suggested in the first draft of the Regulations, by the delegates at the Hankow Conference, were presented to the Ministry of Education, by our President. The Central Board of Nursing Education was appointed and held its first meeting in Nanking on December 25th, 1934. In April, 1935, Miss Vera Nieh was appointed Secretary of the Central Board of Nursing Education, with her office in the Ministry of Education Building.

In June, 1935, the Ministry of Education requested our N.A.C. to inform all schools of nursing registered with our Association that the regulations governing the registration of all schools of nursing had been promulgated, and that

detailed information was being sent to all schools of nursing directly from the Ministry of Education. Our President immediately sent this information to all our N.A.C. Schools of Nursing. After Miss Nieh's resignation in October, 1935, Miss Hu Tun Wu was appointed Secretary of the Board of Nursing Education. To date 20 schools have been registered with the Ministry of Education. The others are in process of registration.

Registration of all Graduate Nurses with the National Health Administration.

In January, 1936, the Government regulations for the registration of all graduate nurses were promulgated. The regulations were printed in the April issue of the Journal. Immediately nurses everywhere began to avail themselves of this privilege and to apply for registration. To date 242 nurses have been registered.



SOME OF THIS YEAR'S GRADUATES.
Methodist Mission Hospital, Yungchow, Hunan, China.

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