

discussion was given to this matter. It was suggested that the new Committee should consist of three members of the Association with three members of the Indian Red Cross Society plus a chairman and secretary, all the members to live within reasonable distance of one another. It was also suggested that the T.N.A.I. might form a small local committee to discuss local arrangements and raise money.

It was proposed by Miss Robson and seconded by Miss Lucas that the Association should not commit itself in any way with regard to responsibility for the passage money, travelling and incidental expenses suggested.

Miss Abram, in closing the Conference, said that it had certainly been a record one, and she wished to thank everyone who had helped to make it such a success. Her special thanks on behalf of the Association were extended to

Miss Gadsden and Miss King for all the arrangements they had made at the Government General Hospital,

Miss Chadwick, for her tea-party, the Cathedral service, and 101 things,

Miss Esplin, for arranging transport and hospitality,

The Nurses in the Choir at the Cathedral service,

All the Hostesses,

Mrs. Organe, and the Staff at the Rainy Hospital, for the garden parties and tea,

Mrs. Hayles for addressing the Student Nurses' Meeting,

The Judges of the S. N. Exhibition,

His Grace the Bishop of Madras and his Chaplain, Rev. Maurice Clark,

The Donors of the Prizes,

Miss Vale, for keeping the Minutes,

The Doctors who had given so much time to the members of the Conference.

Miss Chadwick thanked Miss Abram for all that she had done and in the name of the members presented her with a despatch case to 'prevent anxiety as to whether she had lost any of her notes during Conference'.

A very pleasant garden party, by the kindness of the Zemindarni of Jaggampeta, provided a happy ending to a very enjoyable conference. The Zemindarni herself kindly presented the prizes for the S. N. exhibits during the evening.

THE HISTORY AND ETHICS OF NURSING

BY SISTER MACMURRAY

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These facts have been taken from various nursing books.

1. **In the Far Centuries.** Prior to the advent of Christianity there is seldom any mention of Nursing, although nursing must have been one of the first duties of women. The first mention of an Order being established was in A. D. 60 when Phoebe, the friend of Paul, was one of the first deaconesses whose duty it was to tend the sick in their homes. Gradually the Order became more and more established and for centuries Nursing was regarded as a form of religious duty. The unselfish devotion of those workers has been an undying example to all charitable work. When Henry VIII, repressed all English monasteries the nursing brethren and sisters went abroad, leaving no 'Haven' for the sick and dying in England. Years later when Infirmarys reopened there were no experienced nurses to form training schools. Paid hands recruited from the uneducated and lowly born, replaced the women who had given up all, to devote themselves to nursing, for the

love of the work and pious reasons; as a result the training, work, and status of Nursing deteriorated lamentably.

Evolution of Modern Nursing. Pastor Fliendner and his wife established the Kaiserswerth Deaconesses Institution of Dusseldorf, in 1836, as a hospital for the sick, and a training school for Protestant nurses. This move inspired Mrs. Fry to form the Institution of Nursing Sisters in London in 1844, and Charles Dickens in *Martin Chuzzlewit*, aided the cause of reform by creating Sairy Gamp and Betsy Prig.

In 1854 came the Crimea War and Florence Nightingale (born 1820—died 1910) trained in the KAISERSWERTH INSTITUTION, was sent to reorganise the deplorable nursing conditions there. We all know under what difficulties and privations she worked her reforms. The scandal of the Crimea attracted further attention to the need of drastic reforms and improvements in the system of nursing. St. John's House of Sisterhood soon afterwards undertook the nursing of Kings College Hospital. As a tribute to all her struggles against terrible odds, and her unselfish devotion to the sick in the Crimea, the nation in 1860 raised a Nightingale Fund. Training schools for nurses were founded being endowed by this fund, and once more the standard of nursing was raised. It is a true saying, that the development of Modern Nursing has been due to three very diverse influences: RELIGION, WAR, and SCIENCE.

2. The Qualities of a Good Nurse

(a) No one should take up the profession for the sake of a livelihood, but for the love of the work itself.

(b) A nurse must have a good education, an even temper, and a kind, sympathetic nature, and hands ever willing to tend the wants of the sick. To these qualities she must add *Observation*, *Cleanliness*, a sense of proportion and a habit of always making accurate statements.

3. **The Duties of a Nurse.** Are to the *Patient*, Medical Officer, the Ward, and to her *Hospital*.

(a) *To the Patient.* Must anticipate his wants, be gentle but firm—the presence of a refined and courteous woman in a ward will usually be sufficient to maintain respect and order. *Familiarity must always be avoided.*

A nurse should endeavour to let her patient feel that nothing is too much trouble to make him happy and comfortable. That it is a pleasure to do things for him. She must treat relations with kindness.

She should always put herself in her patient's place, and do for him what she would like done for herself if she were ill.

(b) **To the Medical Officer.** Her first duty is *obedience*. She must be truthful and careful when making her reports on the patient's condition. When left alone in private nursing she may have to act on her own judgment, she should proceed on the lines likely to be approved by her doctor rather than on those she might choose. *She must be loyal to him.*

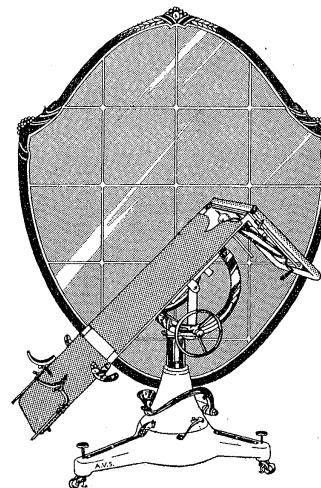
(c) **To the Ward.** She can best serve here by *Punctuality*, *Orderliness*, and *Economy*. A nurse should be *Methodical*, she can get through so much more work if she cultivates *Method*. Clean up as she goes, put away articles as soon as finished with, leaving her trail clean, neat, and tidy. Nurses on opposite sets should *co-operate* and not only find fault. There should be a feeling of real pride for the ward.

(d) **To the Hospital.** She should be proud of her *Training School*, respecting all *written* and *unwritten laws*, and respect all *traditions*. She should so behave on or off duty that no *stir* or *discredit* may fall on her hospital. She must remember that hers is a *noble* work, and the only work in which *self must be buried*.

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