

to receive a diploma, she will not get one, but in the meantime she can do a great deal of work, which might be called unskilled labor, about such an institution. We demand that all candidates for our training-school shall have passed through the eighth grade; we do not require them to be high school graduates. In fact, as Dr. Ancker has said, a great many of the physicians in the country never had more than a high school training, and a person who is fitted by nature to be a nurse is easily trained for that occupation, and it matters little whether she has a high school or a collegiate education.

I agree with Dr. Jones that one of the greatest things today in the training of nurses is to bring before them the question of culture. I think nurses who enter that service need some development along that line, and I think, very often the only difference there is, in a great many nurses, is just the question of culture. The cultured nurse may not know any more than the nurse who hasn't had culture, but she certainly appears very much better.

DR. A. C. ROGERS, *Supt. of School for the Feeble-Minded and Colony for Epileptics, Faribault*: I have just a word to say. I should be very sorry to have the impression go out that training in either a general or a special hospital resulted in extravagance in the use of supplies. Very few people that come for employment, at least to the institution I am connected with, have very correct ideas concerning the economical use of supplies, because of a lack of home training. Again, there is a socialistic tendency at the present time to consider state property pretty nearly free plunder. I think that the tendency of training is properly corrective as to this, in our well organized hospitals, state or otherwise.

We go East very often for our best women trainers simply because in the East there are more available women who have been brought up in cultured homes and yet who for various reasons are thrown upon their own resources. There are fewer of this class in the West, where women who have had the refinements of the best homes usually seek other kinds of employment, if they seek employment at all. On the other hand, eastern people do not adjust themselves to new conditions as readily as western.

So far as we are concerned, our training-school for nurses has had a somewhat subordinate position. We have our distinct training for attendants and distinct training for nurses in the general hospital, but we have never attempted to encourage our nurses in the idea that the training we could give them was sufficient to adequately prepare them for practice. We have simply, after a two years' course, given them a

Quarterly Bulletin; Aug 1906 - May 1907  
V. I. - 8

certificate of the fact of their having had so much training and usually send them to Dr. Ancker or somebody else, to give them the final finishing off. I believe, however, that we are now nearly ready to organize a three years' course for our nurses and hope to start it very soon.

DR. TOMLINSON: I had two objects in writing a paper on the subject of the training of nurses, and in asking these people from the outside to discuss it. One was to show them that the general opinion with regard to nursing and the training of nurses in hospitals for the insane, was an erroneous one; and the other object was to impress upon the Board of Control through the discussion of the paper, the importance of the training-school not only to the hospital, but to the general public as well.

The opinions expressed by some who took part in the discussion confirm the belief expressed by me, that even those medical men who are connected with the general hospitals, do not appreciate the fact that our hospitals for the insane are also general hospitals. The isolation of our hospitals for the insane prevents the appreciation by the general public, or even by the medical profession, of the fact that among so large a number of people gathered together in one place, there must necessarily be a great deal of illness; and particularly so because these people must have been essentially ill when they came into the institution. Besides, the very nature of their malady makes necessary an amount of personal care and supervision that would never be required in a general hospital where the patient is not only able, but willing and anxious to co-operate with the physician and nurse in their efforts in his behalf. It is for these reasons, and speaking from the standpoint of experience in both the general and the special hospital, that I believe, being given the same material and the facilities to work with, we can turn out a better trained nurse for general work from a hospital for the insane, than can be turned out from the general hospital. Indeed, there are two institutions in the East, with which I am familiar, whose graduates, after taking a year's work in a general hospital in the special training that they could not acquire in a private hospital with its limited population, stand far above the graduate of the general hospital in the estimation of both physicians and patients, and consequently command larger salaries. This higher standing is due, in its turn, to the character of the training they received in the hospital for the insane where the necessities of their work compelled the acquiring on their part of that thorough knowledge of the details of personal care that the helplessness of the insane makes necessary. That is, they

07-CTN-ACR