

At this point of the treatment of the nurse problem it may be well to move slowly. The small hospitals might very strongly and with some reason object to a scheme of education that would remove their nurses to some larger hospital for their final training in the special branches, or in subjects that the special hospital did not teach practically. Such a plan of education would have the effect of filling the small hospitals with nurses in the earlier portion of their training and the larger hospitals with those who had arrived at the later period, or had become more efficient. Such a system might have the effect of supplying the small hospitals with junior nurses, and the larger hospitals with senior and better trained nurses. The small hospitals might object to teaching the "fundamental" subjects and then losing their nurses to the larger hospitals for the "essential experience in different departments."

The Commissioner has recognized this difficulty and states that it "will have to be earnestly studied so as to afford such a solution as will not interfere with the effective carrying on of large and small hospitals." The report then lays down this position:

"Provision should be made for a uniform preliminary educational qualification, as well as for a standardized and comprehensive professional training, with outside inspection and strict examinations. And in this some way must be found to enable the student nurse in a small centre to be shifted to larger and more varied surroundings, and for those in general practice to study at special institutions, and vice versa."

The report mentions the formation of a "Council of Nurse Education." This would appear to be a necessity if the standard of education is to be high and made somewhat the same in all the hospitals. The amending of the act so as to include all hospitals is set forth. It is further recommended that there should be a uniform preliminary education, a uniform curriculum, and uniform teaching and examinations. There should also be constant inspection of training schools, and there should be a proper equipment for teaching. With regard to the complete training of nurses the report contends that where one hospital does not afford a full round of experience another hospital must make up the deficiency. Here are the words of the report:

"To meet these deficiencies nothing can be done except by shifting those in training to places where their particular lack may be made up. This cannot be done without co-ordination, and, indeed, without what may be termed affiliation under proper and practical regulations. Matters should be so arranged that each nurse during her period of training should cover each phase of nursing experience."

The Commissioner takes up the important subject of the nurses who have not had a hospital training, but, nevertheless, do useful ser-