

Another feature of the Act of much value is that it confers on hospitals the power to expropriate property adjacent to them. This puts it beyond the power of any one to hold up a hospital for an exorbitant price.

Under the new Act, hospitals must receive all patients other than such as would require to be placarded according to the Public Health Act, or the regulations thereunder. This may give rise to some inconvenience, but then the public must be considered. We have known of cases of measles in boarding schools and hotels that have been refused by hospitals; and so with erysipelas.

Another useful provision of the Act is that it makes the care of the indigent poor a debt upon the municipality of which such person is a resident. In the past, municipalities have been altogether too willing to shirk their duty in this regard. In future they must be able to show that the person requiring free hospital care is not a resident in order to escape liability. The hospital is given power to charge as high as \$1.00 a day for such cases.

Nurses are given a status under this Act. All hospitals with a training school may submit such training and course of study as is prescribed for their nurses. If such be deemed efficient, the nurses graduating from such a hospital may register and be regarded as registered nurses of the Province of Ontario. A few years ago the nurses applied for a special bill, which, on that occasion, was not made law. This partly meets the demands then put forth.

The Act also deals with private hospitals. In future these hospitals must secure a license from the Department of the Provincial Secretary. The effect of this Act will be to keep these hospitals within proper bounds. It has been known that some of these private hospitals, especially of the maternity class, have had a very undesirable reputation.

On the whole, the hospitals will now conduct their work under a very satisfactory system of rules.

HALF-MILLION FUND FOR VICTORIAN ORDER OF NURSES.

An appeal has been made by Her Royal Highness, the Duchess of Connaught, for half a million dollars to endow the work of the Victorian Order of Nurses. The interest of this fund, along with the one raised by Lady Minto in 1902, would enable the management to establish branches in some districts where there is much need for these nurses.