

## Nursing Journals from Abroad

There has been so much of interest in many of the recent nursing publications that we have been tempted to make large excerpts and reprints of whole articles; but our space has forbidden this indulgence, and we can only advise nurses to read as many of the different journals as they can. It will now be possible, when so many nurses clubs and residential homes are being started, for members to see these papers regularly.

In a recent *Nursing Times* there is a very good article on the establishment and equipment of a nursing home; different sections of the article are written by members of the medical profession, and by trained nurses who have had experience in this class of work. The requirements as regards staffing are quite out of the question in this country, it would not be possible here to carry on an establishment as described, where the fees expected from patients reach so high as twelve guineas, and the salaries given to trained nurse are as low as £36 or £30 per annum. The exact reverse is the case—Patients rarely pay more than three, four, or in a few cases, five guineas, and the salaries paid to trained nurses are from £52 to £100 a year. It is therefore necessary to limit the number of trained nurses, and to employ a certain number of probationers, who will receive £25 per annum and upwards, for any but special nursing duties. Then the problem of whether or no training can be given in a private hospital is a very live question here. It is absolutely necessary if the proprietress of a private hospital is to cover expenses and make any profit at all, to have a certain amount of untrained assistance, and in a well-equipped private hospital of about twelve beds, to which patients are sent by up-to-date surgeons and physicians, the probationers get very valuable instruction and experience in the course of a few years. The Government regulation is that there must be a registered nurse for every six patients.

We would much like to receive an article from a nurse conducting a private hospital here, describing her experiences.

The *British Journal of Nursing* is, as usual full of interesting matter; not least being the latest news concerning State registration. Nurses should all read this journal, as by it they are kept up to the details of nursing

progress in varied directions all over the world. We would like to copy much, but then KAI TIAKI would no longer be the New Zealand Nurse's own journal.

*La Garde Malade Hospitaliere*, in its January number, has an interesting account of a hospital in Algiers, the conditions of which take one far back. There is also translated an account of the Army Nursing Reserve in New Zealand, which was given some time ago in the *British Journal of Nursing*. We regret that we have no further progress to report of this movement.

The American journals are also full of interest. We have received copies of the *American Journal of Nursing*, the *John Hopkins Almanac Magazine*, and the *Canadian Nurse*. In the March number of the latter, there is an article which we shall reprint, the conditions described being so similar to our own, and the article containing many useful hints for us:—

### “NURSING IN THE BACK-BLOCKS.”

In connection with the little paper sent by a nurse working under a County Council in a distant country place, it may be interesting for the nurses of New Zealand to learn how the same difficult problem of providing nursing care for those far away from the large centres is exercising the minds of members of their profession in Canada. In a recent number of the *Canadian Nurse*, is a most interesting article dealing with this matter. A great difficulty has been propounded by the Inspector-General of Hospitals, who has on several occasions spoken to various assemblages of nurses, and appealed to them for help in carrying out his idea. It is, as you have read in previous numbers, a system of district nursing in the back-blocks under the various Hospital Boards. Steps are already being taken to institute the system, and it is hoped during this year, to establish nurses in many parts to carry out the work. The plan described by the Russell County nurse is a little different, and inasmuch as the nurse is at more personal risk, perhaps not so good moreover the very poorest are not catered for. Do not let it come to pass that there are no volunteers for this most necessary work and that, as recently happened, a nurse who is not fully trained, or a registered nurse