

furrow be completed. New country is opened up every year. One task only grows the more difficult for being put off. One's critics notwithstanding, we have done much. The Victorian Order has done much. All honour to them both. Most of all, the private nurses deserve every praise. Many of them take their cases as they come, and go as cheerfully to a desolate farmhouse as to a rich Winnipeg home. But it is not fair to thrust the burden on individuals. We should take counsel together, East and West, and find out how best we can answer, and quickly,

the exceeding bitter cry of our pioneer sisters of the West for help and succour."

How true all this is, how applicable to our new country here, and to the work our nurses have to do for those who are struggling to make a living away in the back-blocks—in the roadless North. When called for to assist with the institution of the back-blocks district nursing system, let us hope many volunteers may come forward and may leave the towns, where, though they are needed, the need is not so urgent.

## Insurance for Nurses.

I should like to draw the attention of nurses to the advantages of making some provision for their future. For some years I had thought of insuring my life, but I had always put it off because I was again and again confronted with the thought, What should I do about the payments if I could not nurse any more, or was out of work for a time through some illness? Then I heard of an Insurance Company in which it is possible to take out a policy payable in a certain number of years with an accident policy attached in which one can insure against septic fingers, sprained ankle, appendicitis, pleurisy, scarlet fever, in fact any accident and almost any illness that would prevent a nurse carrying on her work. Say one insured for £500, payable at 50 or 60, if totally permanently disabled the Company undertakes to pay the policy holder £500 down, and the policy is still carried on by yearly payments, and £500 with bonuses is again paid at the age agreed upon. If totally temporarily disabled a nurse would receive £3 weekly for not more than 26 weeks. If permanently partially disabled, £250 down; if temporarily partially disabled 15s. weekly.

In any case a nurse gets good interest on her money, and the oftener she has accidents or illnesses the more she gets out of her insurance.

A probationer recently fell and hurt her knee, and was in consequence off duty for five weeks; if she had been insured in this Company for £250 she would have received 30s. a week during the whole of that time.

I blistered my hand one day against the steriliser; if I had scrubbed that hand I would have taken the skin off and run the risk of getting it infected. I was therefore temporarily partially disabled for a few days, and I got 10s. for that blister.

For example: A nurse aged say, 30, insuring for £250 payable at 55, would pay a yearly premium of £11 8s. 2d., or under 5s. per week. For that she gets 30s. per week for any accident or almost any illness which totally disables her.

The Australian Widows Fund Life Assurance Society issues such a policy, and full particulars can be obtained from the resident secretary at Wellington, or from any of the district inspectors in the Dominion.

H. INGLIS.

*The Interstate Medical Journal* says Nobecourt and Merklen (*Revs. Mens des Mal de L'Enf.*) have studied a series of cases to determine the normal temperature curve in nurslings. They find that the infant does not present the line of variation commonly seen in the adult, even in health.

The infant has a monothermal temperature, with little variation in the morning and evening. This monothermal temperature is constantly found in normal infants at least up to the fifth month in life. Interference with this regular line betokens always a pathological condition.