

amendment, that Nurses and Probationers should have three weeks' holiday in each year. She said, that at the outside, she calculated it would only require four more Nurses, and cost at most £100 a year to give each Nurse and Probationer the extra week's holiday; while it would cost nothing at all if the Nurses who were now sent out to private cases were only kept in the Wards as they should be. She appealed on the ground of humanity to the Court to make a little less money out of its Nurses and to give them this greatly-needed increased rest.

The Rev. Mr. GEDGE briefly seconded the amendment.

Mr. CHAS. BAILY said he had looked into this matter very carefully, and the Chairman of the Committee and the Matron gave him a three hours' interview on the subject in the summer. He was sorry that nothing had yet been done. He would not go into the figures. Miss Scrimgeour said four extra Nurses would be sufficient. (Miss PAGET: fifty.) Another lady said fifty. He did not know which figure was right, and he did not care. The question was: Ought the Nurses to have longer holidays, or was three weeks' rest in two years of incessant work, fair and humane treatment for women? He felt it was not, and he could not understand anyone maintaining

that it was. Other and much poorer Hospitals gave their Nurses longer holidays, and the London must do the same. (Several ladies: "No, No.") There was no use saying, "No, No"; it would have to be done. Quite lately five other large London Hospitals had extended their Nurses' holidays to three weeks or a month. He could not understand why the London Hospital should be so far behind other Hospitals in its Nursing Department. He learnt that, in other matters, they took their proper position as the largest Hospital in the United Kingdom. Perhaps it might be said that the Matron had not the ability to carry out improvements and bring the Nursing Department up to the modern standards adopted by other large Hospitals. If that was the case, they must find someone who could do so. They must remember that their Nurses worked excessive hours—seven days a week, and eleven hours and fifty minutes a day.

Father GORMAN: That is not so. They have two hours of that, off duty every day.

Mr. BAILY: I bow to the reverend gentleman's superior knowledge. These are the Matron's figures, but of course he may know more about the Nurses than the Matron does. But as far as arithmetic goes, I think he must be wrong, for

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