

Mr. ALDEN recently, in reporting to the Board of Guardians of St. Saviour's on a visit to Hanwell Asylum, said:—

He found everything satisfactory, with one exception—it was impossible to avoid noting the haggard and worn-out look of the Nurses; many of them seemed nearly broken down. On inquiry he found they worked from 6 in the morning until 8 at night, with only half an hour for dinner, and tea-time as they could get it. As for holidays, they appeared to get but four hours a week, and they were in fact very much overworked.

Mr. Wilson confirmed Mr. Alden's statement.

Mr. Layman pointed out that the Nurses were under the charge of the London County Council. Surely their committees could look after them.

It was decided to call the attention of the Committee of Hanwell Asylum to Mr. Alden's expression of opinion.

THE London County Council, in spite of its Progressive pretensions, does not show a very sociological aspect towards the Nurses under its protection. The miserable payment offered to its Nurse-Lecturers is sufficient proof of this. There are few Technical Institute Committees connected with County Councils who would offer such niggardly fees, and when the cost of living in London is taken into account, their "economy" at the expense of their poor workers becomes more reprehensible.

THE Committee of the Aylesbury Parish Nurse Fund have arranged to pay their two Nurses—Nurse Mills and Mrs. Ead—a salary of eight shillings per week, "to do the work until the end of the year." Whether they will subsequently be better paid does not transpire. Meanwhile it would appear as if Nursing is not rated at a high value in Aylesbury.

Mr. ROGER WILLIAMS has brought the Nursing arrangements at the Preston Union Infirmary very graphically and forcibly before the public in the following letter which he has addressed to a local paper, in which he says:—

To the Editor of the "Preston Herald."

"SIR,—As the nursing arrangements at the Workhouse Infirmary are again coming up for discussion, it has occurred to me that a comparative statement, showing the minimum staff consistent with efficient management and the actual staff as at present employed, would facilitate the comprehension of this much-debated and very important subject. I beg therefore to submit to your readers the following tabular statement."

Nursing staff.	Minimum staff consistent with efficient management.	Present staff.
Superintendent	1	1
Charge Nurses (Ward Sisters)	3	1
Staff Nurses	8	1
Probationers	8	3
Total Nursing staff	20	6

Yours, etc.,
W. ROGER WILLIAMS, F.R.C.S."

The table is so simple that "all who run may read" and comprehend the deficiencies of their Infirmary.

St. Mary's Hospital Gazette says:—

"On November 15th, in Alexandra Ward, Dr. Cheadle presented to Sister Alexandra, on her leaving the Hospital, a purse containing £15, as an expression on the part of members of the Visiting Staff, Past and Present Residents, and Students of the Hospital, of the esteem with which she is held. In a few well-chosen words, Dr. Cheadle expressed the regret we feel at losing one who has worked for the Hospital so long and so well that her health has at length broken down under the strain. He thanked her not only for her excellent nursing, but also for the great kindness with which she had treated the patients under her care, and he hoped that she would soon regain her health."

SISTER ALEXANDRA (Miss Evans) has recently left St. Mary's, after upwards of thirteen years of devoted service to the Hospital. Sister Alexandra had held her last appointment for six years, having previously been Sister in New Boynton Ward for about three years. She carries with her the goodwill of the successive generations of St. Mary's men, who have had experience of her valued services.

Sister Howett, hitherto in charge of the Isolation Wards, has been appointed to Alexandra, and the vacancy thus created has been filled by the appointment of Nurse Lawrence to be Sister Isolation. Nurse MacAdam has recently been appointed Sister Lewis Lloyd in succession to Sister Monro, now Matron of the Bearsden Convalescent Home, Glasgow, and Nurse Mabel Cook has been appointed Sister Boynton in succession to Sister Fox, who left St. Mary's to undertake the duties of Matron of the City of London Lying-in Hospital.

Dr. J. WARD COUSINS, Senior Surgeon to the Royal Portsmouth Hospital, has suggested an ingenious and admirable method of cleaning and deodorising catheters. He has had attached to the now almost obsolete steam-spray, three tapering tubes fitted with stop-cocks, and capable of holding four catheters of different sizes. The steam-spray is used in the ordinary manner, and thus the catheters are sterilised and deodorised. Dr. Ward Cousins kindly offers to send further details of his contrivance to any Hospital or surgical Institution.

Mrs. BOUSFIELD, one of the Bedford Board of Guardians, has addressed the following letter to the press on the subject of the appointment of a third Nurse at the Workhouse Infirmary, to which we drew attention last week.

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