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EDITED BY MRS. BEDFORD FENWICK.

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## Editorial.

### ASYLUM ATTENDANTS.

WE have received a number of communications from asylum attendants, not only supporting the attitude we have assumed with regard to their registration by the Royal British Nurses Association; but also asking for our assistance in the efforts they are making to obtain more just conditions of work for themselves. We have inquired carefully into the matter, and find that there are, undoubtedly, real grievances which, both for the sake of Asylum attendants and for the benefit of Asylum inmates, should be remedied as soon as possible. Briefly, these grievances may be summarised as "too much work and too little pay," while it would only be fair to add, from our own point of view, that the training given to the great majority of Asylum workers is neither systematic nor sufficient.

To take these points in their order, we are informed on reliable authority that the hours of duty in the London County Council Asylums are fourteen a day, and that in most similar institutions throughout the country the working hours are even longer. It is stated that it not infrequently happens that, in the case of illness amongst Asylum

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