

in charge of trained nurses. Six additional nurses are also being trained at the present time by this Association, and have already been appointed to districts either formed or in the course of formation, so that it is hoped that by the autumn at least ten districts will be in full working order.

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THE Press is once more calling attention to the pauper nurse scandal. We are told that "in the North Dublin Workhouse there are forty-six infants, all under the care of pauper nurses. One of these unfortunate children has just died from starvation, which, in the opinion of the coroner's jury, was due to the negligence of the pauper nurse, a person 'palpably unfit' for such work." We entirely agree with one contemporary that a verdict of manslaughter against the Guardians who permit such abuses would have been amply justified. Perhaps such a verdict would penetrate the minds of the Guardians who permit such abominations, and rouse them into some sort of action.

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While commiserating the fate of the unfortunate child who has been done to death by the callousness of the Guardians, and the negligence of its pauper nurse, we cannot but think that its fate is a happier one than that of the forty-five children who are still condemned to the care (save the mark!) of pauper nurses. The responsibility which the State incurs, which, intrusted with the care of these infants, places them, during the most critical years of their lives in an environment so injurious both morally and physically, is certainly a heavy one, and the sooner it is illegal for paupers to be the custodians of children, the more creditable it will be to all concerned.

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WE regret to observe from the report of Dr. Conolly Norman, resident medical superintendent of the Richmond Asylum, Dublin, that amongst the sufferers in the present terrible outbreak of beri-beri three of the nurses are victims. When we learn from this same report that there are 721 patients in the asylum above the number for which legitimate accommodation is provided, we can only wonder that the majority of inmates have not long ago succumbed to some frightful outbreak of infectious disease. This institution should be razed to the ground, and this speedily.

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THE thirty-ninth report of the Board of Dublin Hospitals find that "the Dublin hospitals combine a maximum of efficiency with a minimum of expenditure." We should advise the gentle-

men who compose the Board to turn their attention to the supervision of the Irish Poor Law Infirmaries and Asylums. Having arrived at the perfection of hospital management, surely their genius might be now expended on effecting the slight reforms which they might discover necessary in the organisation of these much-discussed institutions.

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WE ventured to predict a few weeks ago that no sooner did American nurses cooperate for mutual help and protection than objections would be raised to their attempting to institute a high standard of education and efficiency, and we reprint with much interest the following remarks culled from the *Nursing World*. It is sincerely to be hoped that the professional American press will do all in their power to help the nurses in their attempt to organise on a sure and sound basis, and encourage them to aim at a high ideal.

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With the terrible example before them of the prejudice and injustice with which nursing reform has been assailed in this country, we must enjoin our American colleagues to stand firm and raise rather than lower the standard of education for nurses which they have adopted.

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"Much has been said in nursing circles about the importance of organisation, and numerous plans have been presented to meet this greatest need of the profession. In a general way the aim has been to effect such organisation as would tend to elevate the standard of nursing education, promote the welfare of deserving members, and draw the line more distinctly between trained and untrained nurses. It was thought that if these ends could be accomplished the profession of nursing would become a verity in our social life and command the respect which we believe it deserves. Recent declarations, however, from the Nurses' Associated Alumnae of the United States and Canada—the accredited head of the profession on this continent—give us a hint of a weeding-out process to be inaugurated and introduce a barrier to organisation not heretofore contemplated. We refer to Article III. of the Constitution adopted by the Association at its meeting in February last. It reads as follows:—

'Alumnae Associations of Schools of Nursing connected with general hospitals of not less than one hundred (100) beds, giving not less than two (2) full years of training *in the hospital*, shall be eligible for membership in this Association, by sending thereto accredited delegates and paying annual dues.'

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