

with the elementary principles, at least, of monthly nursing. At present, the majority of superintendents of English nurse training schools adopt the somewhat illogical position of concurring in the strong belief that maternity nurses should be drawn from the ranks of the fully trained, while at the same time they make no attempt to include maternity nursing in their hospital curriculum. Can we blame those who are ignorant of the necessity of a full training for contenting themselves with a special three months' course, if those who are acquainted with the need make no effort to meet it. This is somewhat of a digression, however, from the Prince Alfred Hospital. We congratulate Miss M'Gahey most heartily on the efficient curriculum provided for her nurses, and hope that we, in the old country, may not be far behind.

Legal Matters.

MISS MARY TUPPER, stated to be a trained and certificated nurse, recently brought an action before Mr. Justice Ridley against Mr. J. Coates, a medical "coach," of Holland Road, Brixton, for damages for libel. The alleged libel was contained in a statement made by Mr. Coates to the effect that Mrs. Cleere, his sister, left her husband in consequence of his relations with Miss Tupper, who was living in the house. The evidence went to prove that while there was no absolute misconduct, the behaviour of the nurse and her relations with her employer, both in the presence of his wife and when they were alone together, were to the last degree unseemly and reprehensible. The jury found a verdict for the defendant, with which the judge concurred and gave judgment accordingly. It appears to us that under the circumstances no other verdict was possible. We should be glad to know at what institution Miss Mary Tupper was trained and certificated.

"NURSE" GOODWIN was recently charged at Lambeth with the wilful murder of a baby. We should like to know what right this person has to the name of nurse. In any case, if she has none, it is quite certain that the fact that the charge has been brought against a person describing herself as a nurse, will reflect discredit upon the nursing profession.

Badges.

THE use of badges as a distinctive mark of a particular nursing school or association is being widely adopted. Many of our leading nurse training schools award medals in gold or silver for distinguished merit, others give medals for a certain length of service, and now badges are being instituted to distinguish the grade of the nurses. Three years' certificated nurses at St. Bartholomew's wear "blue belts," the senior probationers at Guy's

Hospital are for the future to wear a narrow white band on the sleeve, four inches from the wrist, and at the London Hospital, upon the suggestion of the Chairman, the probationers doing staff duty are to be distinguished by the letter S on the sleeve.

Appointments.

MISS MARY D. STEVENSON, who trained at Charing Cross Hospital and afterwards acted for five years as ward sister at that institution, has been appointed matron of Chalmers Hospital, Edinburgh. Miss Stevenson is at present matron of the Tiverton Infirmary.

MISS MARTHA JOHNSON, who received her training at the Hospital for Women, Shaw Street, Liverpool, and is at present charge nurse at the Bootle Borough Hospital, has been appointed matron of the Corporation Infectious Diseases Hospital, Bootle. Miss Johnson has had considerable experience in fever work both in Liverpool and London.

MISS MARIAN A. HARVEY has been appointed superintendent nurse at the Union Infirmary, Merthyr Tydfil. Miss Harvey was trained at the Workhouse Hospital, Brownlow Hill, Liverpool, at which place she subsequently held the post of charge nurse for two years.

Nurses' National Total Abstinence League.

FEDERATED TO THE WOMEN'S TOTAL ABSTINENCE UNION.

THE Annual Members' Meeting of the Nurses' National Total Abstinence League was held on January 24th, at 9, Taviton Street, by kind invitation of Mrs. T. P. Whittaker. The President, the Hon. Mrs. Eliot Yorke, presided, and among those present were Mrs. Finlay, Mrs. Norman Kerr, Miss Orme and Mrs. T. P. Whittaker, Vice-Presidents, Miss Ashworth, Miss Hooker, Mrs. Minshall, etc.

The Report was presented by Miss Holland, Secretary, and the Financial Statement by Miss Whittaker, Treasurer. The Officers and Committee were re-elected, and the Lady Elizabeth Biddulph, President of the Women's Total Abstinence Union, and others, were added to the list of Vice-Presidents.

At the conclusion of the business tea was served, and selections of vocal and instrumental music were given by Mrs. Finlay and Miss Shepherd.

Members of the Nursing Profession are cordially invited to join the League, meetings of which are held at 7 p.m. on the first Wednesday in each month, at the Women's Total Abstinence Union Offices, 4, Ludgate Hill, E.C., to which address inquiries respecting the League should be addressed.

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