

here is absolutely no record of this private transaction between the Secretary and the supernumerary nurse, perhaps the treasurer and hon. secretary of the Society will furnish us with an explanation in this year's Annual Report.

THE twenty-seventh annual report of the Local Government Board has just been issued, which we are glad to find states, "Reports from the inspectors as to the condition of pauperism and the administration of relief in their districts generally bear testimony to an increasing desire on the part of guardians to improve the accommodation and nursing arrangements for the sick and helpless inmates of the workhouses, and to provide for the children in separate establishments." How hopelessly bad is the nursing in many Workhouse Wards is an acknowledged fact, and until better discipline is enforced throughout our Poor Law Institutions—good nursing will remain an unknown quantity in those institutions. This is a question for the consideration of the Great Women's Parliament, which is to meet in International Congress, in London, in June next.

"SHOULD Nurses Smoke" is again agitating the daily press. Discipline says "No" in the Hospital and Nursing Home. But all the same the enjoyment of the seductive cigarette is not a crime. Many royal ladies testify to this fact in the seclusion of their own apartments.

At the opening of the Greig-Smith Memorial Operating-Theatre, at the Bristol Royal Infirmary, by Sir William MacCormac, President of the Royal College of Surgeons, it was stated that the regular attendance upon the in-patients mainly fell upon the nursing staff, and much improvement and progress had been manifested of recent years in this profession for women. At the present time the committee had in hand a great enlargement of the home in Terrell Street, by which accommodation for fifty extra nurses would be found. It was not intended to make this large increase in the nursing staff, but they were anxious to find sleeping room for them all outside the Infirmary building. This work would cost about £6,000, but it was believed that by giving proper comforts and accommodation, and by enforcing proper duty without overwork, and by giving such a training for nurses as the Infirmary afforded, they would find that department popular among the increasing number of ladies who were likely to take up nursing as a profession. This is excellent reasoning.

THE first Annual Meeting of the Cumberland Nursing Association was held on Saturday, at Carlisle, when it was stated that gifts of second hand bicycles would be very acceptable.

At a recent meeting of the Newton Abbot Board of Guardians the resignation of Nurse Whiting was received, she being unable to do what was required of her as a sick nurse. Dr. Ley hoped the board would in future appoint only thoroughly qualified nurses. Nurse Whiting was appointed, although she never said she could nurse, and had been only an attendant at a lunatic asylum. The board refused to appoint a thoroughly qualified nurse, and had to advertise again as a result. We presume it is this sort of person whom Sir James Crichton, Browne and Mr. Fardon desire to thrust on to the Register of Trained Nurses.

It seems strange in these days of Atlantic cables that the English system of providing a skilled Army Nursing Service is almost unknown in the States, or it would appear so from the observations of many of the American Army doctors on this important question.

When Surgeon-General Sternberg of the army was asked whether it would be feasible to establish in Washington or New York a school for nurses like that at Netley, he replied that it was a matter to which he had never given the least consideration, that he knew nothing whatever about it, and that he had no time to discuss it.

A similar reply has been given by almost every one of those officials whose position would be supposed to render their opinion valuable; and yet there are those outside official life who have studied this question with a great deal of care, who are familiar with the manifold good which has been accomplished by the Netley school, and who believe that the system could be established in America with similarly beneficial results.

Dr. Hammond, who is now on the retired list, has visited Netley Hospital, and has examined it with great care. He says there is no reason why a similar school should not be established in the United States, and he believes one would be of great benefit.

"During the war," he said, "the women who volunteered their services as army nurses did a magnificent work. It would be an advantage now if we could have a regularly established governmental school, from which women could be graduated ready to take up the work of army nursing at a moment's notice.

"It has been said that while such an establishment might be of value in England, it would be of little value in the United States; which is said to be a nation of peace.

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