

together, and by keeping a bicycle, donkey, or pony carriage, the nurse has been able to do the work satisfactorily. Boards of guardians have the power to subscribe towards parish nurses to the extent of £10 a year, but some guardians have objected to subscribing, owing to the rate being levied over the whole union. They say it is unfair that rural parishes should pay for what they do not share in. Now this is a fallacy, for if the services of a nurse lighten the rate only in one place the pressure over the whole union is less. Boards of guardians do not meet these cases in the generous manner they ought. One Board in North Wales gave as contribution to a parish nurse, who was taking over all the pauper patients in a parish which had cost the ratepayers about £30 a year before the nurse came, the large sum of £2 2s. a year. Can we expect private individuals to help these nurses when our public bodies give such totally inadequate support.

The County Councils give grants to classes in connection with the St. John's Ambulance Society, but surely the employment of trained nurses amongst our poor is of greater importance than the slight training received by the poor who attend the ambulance classes. It would be better if they would grant this money to the parish nurse instead, on condition she gave lectures during the winter on subjects relating to nursing that the council could themselves fix. This would be of far greater benefit to the working classes at large.

Let guardians realise the great responsibility their name and position entails upon them, and endeavour without fear or favour, creed or politics, position or party, to meet and grapple with this question of the efficient nursing of the poor—a question that when solved will not only mean burdens kept off the rates, and reduction of rates, but the brightening of many a home, the lightening of many a sick bed, and the prevention of that taint of pauperism entering a house, which where once it enters it seems never able to leave."

A Generous Expression.

SIR THOMAS SMITH never misses an opportunity of saying kind things of nurses. Is this why he is so adored by them? Partly no doubt, but more perhaps, because of the courtesy and consideration with which he always treats them. In giving the annual opening address of the Abernethian Society, at St. Bartholomew's Hospital, Sir Thomas Smith said "He welcomed the emancipation of women, by virtue of which movement the nursing of the sick was now done by the educated and refined, to the benefit of patients and all concerned." We wish all Sir Thomas Smith's professional colleagues were imbued with like sentiments,

The Registered Nurses' Society.



A MEETING of the Committee of the Registered Nurses' Society was held at 20, Upper Wimpole Street, on Tuesday last, when the following Resolutions were passed unanimously: "That Condition 1 of Membership in so far as it relates to members of the Registered Nurses' Society being necessarily Registered Members of the Royal British Nurses' Association be, and hereby is rescinded."

In the discussion which followed, a plan of future action was decided upon which we feel sure will be for the ultimate benefit of the Society.

The subjoined Resolution was passed in relation to the death of Miss Marie Gibson, whose loss every member of the society deploras.

"This Committee desires to place on record its sincere regret at the death of Miss Marie Gibson, and at the loss which this Society has in consequence suffered. For more than four years Miss Gibson performed the duties of Assistant Secretary with most conscientious devotion, zeal and loyalty. She endeared herself to every member of the Society and worthily earned the entire respect and confidence of the Committee and of all who worked with her."

Appointments.

MATRONS.

MISS HANNAH MITCHELL has been appointed Matron of the Sir Titus Salt's Hospital, Saltaire. She was trained for three years at the Royal Infirmary, Bradford, and has acted as Sister of both the men's accident and the children's surgical wards. Miss Mitchell has been awarded both the Bronze Medal upon completing her training, and also the Gold Medal of her training school.

MISS M. L. SMITH has been appointed Matron of the Cottage Hospital, Caterham. Miss Smith received training and her certificate at both the Evelina Hospital for Children and at King's College Hospital, and has also held for two years the post of Out-patient Sister at the Victoria Hospital for Children, Chelsea. Miss Smith has lately been Assistant Matron at the Royal Berks Hospital, Reading.

MISS M. T. TAYLER has been appointed Matron of the Convalescent Home, Wotton-under-Edge. Miss Tayler was trained at the General Hospital, Bristol, where she held the position of Sister, and was altogether connected with that institution for eleven years.

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