

training in mental work, and suitable conditions were assured, we think that many Matrons of General Hospitals would be ready to recommend to Asylum Authorities certificated nurses who would be glad to obtain some insight into the nursing of mental disorders.

A PERTINENT QUESTION.

Miss J. BOYD, Superintendent Nurse of the Oulton Workhouse Infirmary, raised an important point at a recent meeting of the Mutford and Lothingland Guardians, when she enquired whether she was to take her orders concerning the conduct of the Infirmary from individual Guardians or from the Board as a whole. Her reason for asking the question was, she stated, that she had been interfered with by individual Guardians. It is obviously impossible to take directions from members of any Board except in their corporate capacity. It is conceivable that as individuals their orders may be diametrically opposed, in which case fulfilment of the different directions is manifestly impossible. Guardians would do well to recognize this truth.

THE RIGHT LINE.

At the ordinary monthly meeting of the Board of Management of the Royal Salford Hospital, held last week in the board room of the institution, the following resolution was passed unanimously:—"That, having heard the report of the auditor, and the result of the inquiries since made as to cases of defalcations by the late secretary, a warrant be applied for for his apprehension." We consider that the Board of Management of the Royal Salford Hospital are to be congratulated on adopting this line. In more than one instance when defalcations have occurred committees have made good the deficit out of the hospital funds, and hushed the matter up in order to avoid a scandal. This is, in our opinion, a quite indefensible way of dealing with a scandal of this nature.

THE REMUNERATION OF WORKHOUSE CHAPLAINS.

MR. WOODMANSEE, one of the Camberwell Guardians, does not appear to place a high value on spiritual ministrations. At the last meeting of the Board, the Workhouse Visiting Committee recommended that the Chaplain be granted three weeks leave, and that a locum tenens be paid at the rate of £2 12s. 6d. to

carry on his duties. Mr. Woodmansee objected. They already paid the chaplain two guineas a week (not an excessive amount, surely), and now he asked that the ratepayers should pay for a locum during his holiday. He did not see why some broken down parson in one of the workhouses—for, doubtless, there were such persons in the house—should not be asked to do the work. It was monstrous to ask the ratepayers to pay this money. He objected to chaplains altogether; they were a greedy, hungry lot. If parsons had the cure of souls in their hearts, such a request would not have been made.

We wonder if Mr. Woodmansee would suggest the propriety of appointing as locum tenens for a medical officer, one of the flotsam and jetsam who fill workhouse wards. Surely the least that Guardians can do when they pay their chaplain a sum not exceeding that received by many private nurses, in addition to board, lodging, and washing, is to give him three weeks holiday in the year, and make adequate arrangements for his duty free of cost to himself. We are glad that Mr. Woodmansee's motion, that the sum be not paid, found no seconder.

A COUNTY COUNCIL GRANT FOR NURSE TRAINING.

A NOTEWORTHY step has been taken by the County Council of Lanarkshire with regard to the training of nurses. It has, with the approval of the Secretary for Scotland, contributed £50 out of the equivalent grant for the purpose of assisting in the training of nurses by the Scottish Branch of the Queen Victoria's Jubilee Institute for Nurses, as a scheme of practical utility in terms of the Education and Local Taxation Account (Scotland) Act, 1892. The County Councils in England might legitimately, and advantageously, make grants for the purpose of improving the education of nurses.

ARMY SERVICE CORPS FOR THE CAPE.

THE latest decision of the War Office in connection with the strengthening of British forces in South Africa, is to despatch as quickly as possible the bulk of the Army Service Corps to the possible theatre of operations. Twenty-five companies have been ordered to prepare for embarkation next week, and will probably sail on October 7th.

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