

year the number of patients attended again increased. The training of nurses has been discontinued, and at the recent annual meeting it was stated that the new system of engaging only fully-trained nurses was working well. The staff now consists of eighty-eight nurses, of whom fourteen are probationers engaged under the old regulations.

Some of our readers may be glad to know that Mrs. Bond, of Westwood, Poole, Dorset, receives slight mental cases as well as convalescent patients in her Home; the terms are from three guineas a week. Mrs. Bond is a certificated nurse, having received her training at St. Bartholomew's Hospital. The picture of Westwood before us shows it to be a substantially-built, detached house, with a pleasant garden attached. By some trains Poole can be reached from London in two hours.

It seems that there are two sides to the question of placing seats along public roads for the convenience of consumptives, and the Runcorn Rural District Council are not unanimous as to its wisdom. Dr. Wood, the Superintendent of the Liverpool Consumptive Sanatorium at Delamere Forest, has asked permission to place seats on the roads where there is plenty of room, but Mr. Horton objected, as he claimed, and we think rightly, that they would be used by children, and there would be danger of infection. Surely the benefit of sanatoria is their power of isolation. Why utilise the public thoroughfares? We do not think it wise.

A correspondent writes:—

"The recent letter in your columns on the 'Spirit of Co-operation' admirably sets forth the spirit—not of co-operation, but of individual aggrandisement—that pervades those staffs composed of private nurses banded together, from their own points of view, merely for commercial undertakings.

"Co-operation in its truest and deepest sense has yet to be proved, and the time will, indeed, be welcome and refreshing when a large majority, instead of a small minority, realise how grand a thing it is—how vastly superior from an intellectual and spiritual standpoint, if not from the material and less noble plane.

"I have often been struck, on even close acquaintance with private nurses, by the fact that few seem to understand the meaning of co-operation. Their guineas blind their eyes, and they so constantly wear gilded glasses, that greed takes possession of them—much to the detriment of more moral qualities.

"One is continually being reminded of the lack of professional interest of nurses; they seldom show even an intelligent desire to maintain an ever-increasing standard of excellence in their public affairs—in a word, they lack a love for their profession as apart from their own individual advancement.

"Is it because nurses, along with the rest of their sex, have never been used to uniting and co-operating, or is it that women as a rule, in general, have not sufficient energy and power to carry out that hope of progression which a few great leaders have already

started amongst them? As I am not a nurse I cannot tell; but I have watched women's work everywhere and am convinced we are a difficult set to work for, being so apathetic and indifferent to all that concerns the political and educational world.

"But one cannot fail to perceive the distinct advance already made on the score of unity and fellowship amongst nurses, and one looks most hopefully towards the future of so grand a profession as that of nursing—which one fails to find amongst other women's labour. Nurses have a far easier struggle for the higher goal than most of their sisters in other professions. What working woman is commented upon, encouraged, and urged to inspiration in the press as is a nurse? Her cause is constantly being fought for, and she has weapons that should enable her to make a far greater stand than she does at present, so that one feels more like pointing the finger of scorn than of pity at her.

"Let her rise and show the world she means to co-operate, and obtain her rightful position as a member of the noblest profession in the world."

The past year has been so exceptionally healthy in Glasgow that the receipts of the Glasgow Training Home for Nurses in regard to private cases nursed are £324 less than the previous year. The number of cases attended in private families was 590, and of those treated in the Home 370. There are 109 nurses on the staff, seventy-eight of whom are fully qualified.

At the annual meeting, Mr. J. Carfrae Alston, who presided, said that for the past three years the fees had fallen short of the total cost of the establishment by no less than £1,097. The necessity for reconstruction remained as strong as ever, but so far the directors only had in hand about £9,000 towards the £15,000 required for rebuilding.

We hope that the accounts of the Home Hospital and of the private nursing department are kept quite distinct.

It is reported that bubonic plague is spreading throughout Cape Colony, cases occurring in such widely separated centres as Cape Town, Port Elizabeth, Graaff Reinet, and King William's Town, while the rats are infected at East London. It is believed officially that plague is certain to reappear on a large scale at Cape Town, and warnings have been issued to prepare for emergencies. It is satisfactory that there are plenty of good nurses on the spot and that sufferers can rely on skilled care from the first—very different to the terrible shortage of well-trained nurses when plague became epidemic in India a few years ago.

In a paper on "The Accuracy of Certain Clinical Methods" Dr. C. P. Emerson, of the Johns Hopkins University, mentions the nurses and their work as follows in speaking of the examination and testing of urine:—

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