

of £200 be subscribed to the above Association on condition that eight district nurses were employed within the city of Sheffield, and that the two district nurses now in the employ of the Guardians had the option of becoming two nurses of such Association.

The Windsor Board of Guardians are providing increased wages, a piano, ping-pong and tennis in order to induce nurses and cooks to stay in their service. Only one nurse appeared in response to a recent advertisement, and she secured a position. Another applicant wrote stating that she had thought of going to Windsor, but when in the train she decided to go to some other town. She was unmarried, and she believed she was going "to meet her fate." Imagine poor sick people at the mercy of such a person! Surely it is high time something was done to eliminate idiots from the nursing ranks.

At a recent meeting of the Berkhamstead Board of Guardians it was agreed, on the motion of Mr. Cheeld, to appoint the Matron of the workhouse (Mrs. Chorley) as Superintendent of the nursing department, with an addition to her salary of £5 per annum, and that the medical officer should, on his visits, be on all occasions accompanied by the Matron. We gather that the Matron is a trained and certificated nurse, and, if this is so, the arrangement is a wise one. In the case of an untrained Matron such a procedure could only be productive of friction and disorganisation.

The terrible risks of fire in asylums were amply emphasised at the Colney Hatch holocaust, and the public consider that no expense is excessive which provides for the greater safety of the helpless insane, and will, we imagine, consider that the Darent Asylum Sub-Committee of the Metropolitan Asylums Board would have been wise to adopt the suggestion of the two Commissioners who visited the asylum and recommended that fire-escape doors, opening outwards, should be provided in all the pavilion dormitories, "in view of the helpless and crippled state of many of the inmates," as well in Blocks 6 and 8 (adult department) and in the blocks of the children's departments.

The Sub-Committee, after considering the question and finding the work would cost £180, have come to the conclusion that the value of the new doors as fire exits would not be sufficient to justify so large an expenditure. They are of opinion that, were doors provided, a large number of the patients, in the pavilions at least, could not walk through them, but would have to be carried. At present, in the event of fire, the obstructions which prevented the opening of the windows could be removed with great ease and rapidity, the bottom sashes could be thrown right up, and patients could be lifted

through the windows. The Sub-Committee do not, therefore, propose to take any further steps on this suggestion. Their decision was approved by the Board.

What do the commissioners propose to do in the matter? We hope, insist upon their suggestions being carried out. It is certainly much more convenient to carry an insane person through a doorway than push him through an open window.

Two young women, attendants at the Salop and Montgomery Counties Asylum, named Letitia Mary Everall and Mary Jane Simmonds, were each fined £2 at Shrewsbury County Police Court recently for striking patients. The defendants, it was proved, struck patients with their fists. The prosecutions were ordered by the Public Prosecutor, after, in the case of Everall, the asylum visitors had decided not to prosecute. The condoning of bruising and banging insane patients about, by those responsible for their care, is becoming unpleasantly frequent, to judge from newspaper reports.

At a recent meeting of the Londonderry Board of Guardians a letter was read from Mrs. S. Gillespie, wife of one of the members of the Board, tendering her resignation as assistant nurse in the workhouse infirmary. The resignation having been accepted, Mr. John Gregg said this raised a matter upon which he wished to move the following resolution:—"That any nurse or other female official in the service of the Guardians who intends getting married must previously tender her resignation to this Board." The motion—which, we are glad to observe, was passed—aimed at preventing indiscriminate visiting of the nurses, either of husbands or sweethearts, which prevented them discharging their difficult and responsible duties.

Love-making in the wards sounds very funny in these days, but we well remember in those prehistoric times when we were a Sister at the London, our astonishment, when going round the wards during visiting hours on Sunday, at seeing the ward nurses and "my young man" seated very close together, and often hand in hand, in the two arm-chairs, which were placed close behind the centre table in the ward, at which the nurses took some of their meals, the patients and their friends looking on with warm approval.

These gentlemen made an afternoon of it, and remained to tea after the patients' friends had departed, dispensing hospitality in quite patriarchal fashion. One nurse was a widow with a "little family." The "little family" was generally present at these functions, and sat on Daddy No. 2's knee with quite a proprietary air. We really did feel very disturbed at spoiling sport when discipline compelled us to forbid such amenities on

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