

workhouse to undergo operations when they ought to be taken to the Royal Albert Hospital. He heard that these operations took place in the workhouse simply with a view to training the nurses. The medical officer, Dr. Row, said the Guardians had no proof whatever of this statement. Surely there can be neither proof of, nor ground for, such an assertion. If not, it should be authoritatively contradicted as publicly as it has been made.

The Beverley Board of Guardians, who have discharged two of their nurses on the ground of friction between them and the Master and Matron of the workhouse, have refused applications from the nurses to be allowed to answer before the Board the false statements made against them, "a privilege even extended to criminals." They also wrote to the Guardians declining to accept the notice to terminate their appointments until they had had an opportunity of meeting the charges made against them. It was stated that no charges were made against the nurses' characters, and that the Guardians could strongly recommend them to fill similar appointments elsewhere. It will, however, be remembered that at a recent meeting of the Board it was reported that the House Committee had considered a report made by the workhouse Master that he had had occasion to speak to the nurses in the infirmary about visits of male friends to them, and had instructed the porter not to admit male friends without the sanction of the Board. The nurses deny absolutely that they have had any gentlemen visitors at all. The only visitors had been two respectable Beverley tradesmen interested in a patient, and a gentleman who was collecting subscriptions for a church in the town. It will be seen, therefore, that there was a charge against the nurses. The motion to hear their defence was defeated by seventeen votes to eleven. We agree with the nurses that all accused persons are entitled to be heard in answer to accusations made against them.

The Hornchurch Nursing Fund have provided a pair of top boots for their nurse, who has found it impossible to visit houses on the Emerson Park Estate in ordinary attire because of the terrible condition of the roads and paths. It may be asked what is the Rural District Council about, but the surveyor to the Rural Council reported that it was impossible to properly survey the roads on this estate on account of their shocking state.

At the monthly meeting of the Committee of Management of the Swansea Hospital it was reported that the first half-year's work of the private nursing staff since its reorganisation showed an actual deficit of £43 1s. 6d. Owing to an exceptionally healthy season there had been a great falling off in the demand for nurses. The sub-committee recommended that the work be continued

and judged by the result of not less than a full year's work. This is a sound suggestion, as a little while must be allowed for the scheme to get into working order and commend itself to the public. Assuming that the nurses are acceptable, the longer they are at work the greater will be the demand for their services.

The quarterly report of the Scottish Branch of the Queen Victoria's Jubilee Institute for Nurses shows that fourteen probationers entered the Home for training during the last three months. Twelve nurses completed their training, and were engaged by local committees. Fifty-six inspections of local branches were made by Miss Wade and Miss Cooper. During the three months 1,461 cases were nursed from Castle Terrace, and 22,454 visits paid. An excellent record of work.

At the annual meeting of the friends and supporters of St. Patrick's Nurses' Home, Dublin, his Excellency the Lord-Lieutenant—who spoke in the place of Lady Dudley, who was prevented by indisposition from attending—said that, personally, he could not speak too highly of the energy and devotion displayed by nurses who had gone to the wild districts. Mr. Elliott had told how in some of these districts the nurses arrived pigeon fashion on ponies; he could tell of one district where the roads were too bad for the nurse to use a bicycle. A pony and trap were procured for her, and when she comes in in the afternoon she grooms and feeds the pony which takes her on her round. This is the sort of good all-round woman needed for pioneer work.

In a somewhat perky letter to a contemporary, Nurse Annie Noon, who for a few days held the position of nurse in the Lisburn Workhouse Infirmary, denies the version given of the circumstances of her resignation. Amongst other things she says: "The medical officer did not come to prescribe for me; I would not have had a prescription from him, nor did I need it. I am capable of treating myself unless I were seriously ill." This seems to us quite an indefensible assertion for a nurse to make.

The Superintendent Nurse of the Infirmary, Miss H. Ferris, has written to the Guardians on behalf of the nursing staff to say that, after Miss Noon's statements to the Board and in the Press, they feel it their duty to say that they have no complaints to make as to the comfort of their apartments, the cooking, the quantity or the quality of their food, though they admit there is room for improvement in the variety of their rations. They suggest that it is regrettable that Miss Noon neglected to supply the Guardians with a copy of the *menu* to which she is accustomed, as she also neglected to furnish her certificate of training or any testimonials.

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