

various hospitals. Needless to say, they are very greatly appreciated, for, as the Annual Report states, "the period at which a patient can be transferred to a Convalescent Home may sometimes be determined by his possessing warm underclothing"; thus in acknowledging a gift to the Metropolitan Hospital the writer says: "We are getting to consider the F.S.C. as a kind of Fairy Godmother, who supplies just what we most needed."

The Hôtel des Invalides, which is the Chelsea Hospital of Paris, has hitherto been served by Nursing Sisters. General André, Minister of War, has given them an official order to withdraw before May 10th, after which date the old pensioners will be looked after by lay nurses.

Speaking at the Annual Meeting of the Central St. Pancras District Nursing Association, held (by permission of Sir Henry and Miss Oakley) at 37, Chester Terrace, Regent's Park, Sir William Collins testified from personal experience to the good work done by the nurses. The importance of proper training was beginning to be realised. However true it might be that women were ministering angels, he must always protest against the idea that every woman was a born nurse. He believed that the London County Council had no power to render financial aid to nurses, but Borough Councils had.

At the Annual Meeting of the East London Nursing Society, the Lord Mayor, who presided, said that no better scheme than that carried out by the Society for promoting good work among the poor could be devised, and it was carried out in a most satisfactory manner. He regretted that in one or two districts it had been necessary to withdraw the nurses for lack of funds. There are now twenty-seven nurses working in thirty-four different parishes, and they have received the commendation of the inspector of Queen Victoria's Jubilee Institute. During the year, 4,652 cases, many of them involving repeated visits, have been nursed.

The borough authorities of Holborn have issued a handbill giving instructions as to the care and feeding of infants. A supplementary note to some excellent advice informs the mother that children under the age of three years are not to have beer, spirits, wine, cheese, pickles, pastry, nuts, or sweets!

The Committee of the Birmingham District Nursing Society have been approached by Miss Peter, General Superintendent of the Queen Victoria's Jubilee Institution for Nurses, as to whether this Society could, in consideration of some payment by way of premium, see its way to admit probationers to either of the homes, who would visit with the members of the regular staff for the purpose of gaining experience. After careful consideration it was decided that it was

advisable to adopt the suggestion, and the House Committee was authorised to admit probationers upon payment in each case of a suitable premium.

At the Annual Meeting of the Bristol Nurses' Institute and Private Nursing Home, held recently at 4, Chesterfield Place, Clifton, it was announced that the work done by the private nurses had been much less than usual, owing to many weeks of slackness in the early summer, and also in the early winter. This slackness seems to have been felt throughout the country. Many institutions in the metropolis make the same complaint. It was stated that the profits on the Private Nursing Home permitted the Committee to make a donation of £50 to the Bristol District Nurses. We hope the private nurses are credited with this donation, a very handsome one from a society of working women, and which in most institutions would make a lay donor a life governor.

Presiding over the Meeting of Organisation of the Middlesbrough Nursing Association last week, the Mayor, Councillor Dorman, said that the good work done by the Association was notorious. During the past year Miss Purvis, the lady superintendent, and five district nurses, paid 19,138 visits and attended 706 cases. There were 210 parish cases, whilst 866 gallons of soup and beef-tea were distributed, and 802 dinners given to convalescent patients. We are sorry that an adverse balance was reported. Such good work demands, and should receive, support.

In order to commemorate the Jubilee of Queen Victoria in 1887, Partick, in common with other towns and police burghs throughout Scotland, inaugurated a fund for the purpose of maintaining two nurses to attend to the sick poor of the district. To meet the cost of such an undertaking a sum of £4,500 was necessary, and, as a result of the efforts of a number of local ladies, £3,700 has already been collected. A two days' sale of work was held in the Burgh Hall, Maxwell Street—it was opened by Mrs. John Stephen—with the purpose of raising an additional £1,000. Provost Kennedy, who presided, pointed out that the object was to furnish a house in the centre of the burgh where the nurses could reside. At present the nurses are compelled to return to Glasgow each night, which must add considerably to the strain of the work.

The Society for Providing Nurses for the Sick Poor in Belfast is doing excellent work. Its recent annual meeting was presided over by the Lord Mayor, Sir Otto Jaffe, J.P., and it was stated that the number of cases attended during the year was 1,053. Consumption far outnumbered all the other diseases attended. About fifty-seven men, women, and children were sent to the Homes of Rest at Bangor, and eighteen weeks' treatment of consump-

[previous page](#)

[next page](#)