

presided, explained that two or three large subscribers had intimated that they would be unable to contribute so much to the hospital, and neighbouring parishes were considering the advisability of having district nurses in their parishes. It was estimated that about £40 per annum would be withdrawn. It was decided by eight votes to two that the hospital be temporarily closed. At a subsequent meeting of inhabitants, a resolution that the Cottage Hospital be continued was carried by eleven votes to seven.

It must be remembered that all that the supporters of County Nursing Associations claim for a large proportion of their "nurses" in rural districts is that they are midwives with a useful knowledge of first aid. It would be very regrettable, therefore, if the increase of County Nursing Associations had the effect of closing the Cottage Hospitals, which are doing most useful work.

The Herefordshire County Council has delegated its powers under the Midwives' Act to a committee consisting of five members of the County Council, Dr. Paul M. Chapman, Mr. Edgar F. Morris, and two ladies, one of whom is the Matron of the Herefordshire General Hospital. The Committee has recommended the appointment of a person—presumably a woman—who shall act in the dual capacity of a supervisor of midwives in the county and superintendent of the nurses employed by the County Nursing Association. The close connection between the work of nurses and midwives demonstrates the importance to nurses of a knowledge of midwifery and maternity nursing, and to midwives of a thorough nursing education, at any rate, for all who aspire to the higher posts in connection with midwifery work.

The fourteenth annual report of the Northern Workhouse Nursing Association, the objects of which are to promote the employment of trained nurses in workhouses and to supply these nurses to boards of guardians requiring them, and which is signed by Dr. J. M. Rhodes, a member of the Executive Committee, states that there are still boards of guardians who do not hesitate to appoint absolutely untrained persons as nurses in their infirmaries. During the year just closed thirty-three applications for nurses were received by the Association, and thirteen appointments of nurses and two of superintendents made. In addition, one member of the staff had been appointed head of a reformatory for inebriates, and another the superintendent of an isolation hospital. These numbers may, the report adds, seem small when compared with the total number of nurses employed in Poor Law infirmaries. As the appointments have with few exceptions been made in some of the smaller unions that are trying to improve the standard of nursing in their sick wards, it is felt that the Association, though seriously hindered by lack of funds, is

still carrying on the work for which it was formed. The unpopularity of workhouse nursing, the Committee points out, is largely due first to the friction between the house and the hospital, and secondly to the want of arrangements for the accommodation and the comfort of the nurses, notably in the matter of the food supplied. In one union the conditions were so unsatisfactory that the committee were obliged to remove the Association nurses, and decided to send no others to the service of the board until improvements had been made.

The new Maternity Department of the Queen Victoria's Jubilee Institute at 12, St. Andrew's Crescent, Cardiff, was last week opened by the Mayoress, in the absence of Lady Windsor, who had consented to perform the opening ceremony, but found it impossible to fulfil her engagement. Prior to this function, the annual meeting of the branch was held at the Y.M.C.A. rooms, presided over by the Mayor, Alderman Robert Hughes. His Worship was accompanied by the Mayoress, and amongst those on the platform were Mrs. H. M. Thompson, Mrs. William Sheen, and Mrs. Ernest Batchelor (hon. secs.), Mrs. Adye, Miss Pritchard (Queen's Inspector for Wales), Miss Morgan (Superintendent of the Cardiff Institute), Mrs. Grayson (Superintendent of the Maternity Department), Dr. William Sheen, and Dr. Maclean.—The Rev. David Davies, in seconding the adoption of the Annual Report and statement of accounts moved by the Mayor, who remarked that the institute was in a most flourishing condition, said that the Midwives' Act, which came into force on the 1st inst., marked a very important social change in the history of the country, and it was their aim in Cardiff to administer it in the most enlightened manner, and in a way that would benefit the community and the medical and nursing professions. The cost of the new Maternity Department would be about £400 a year, but they hoped to be recouped a certain amount of that when the nurses were more fully employed than at present, and when, as was hoped in the course of time, they had a number of pupils to train in the institution. Dr. Patterson, dealing with the establishment of a course of lectures to midwives at the University College, said that, in this matter, Cardiff was in the forefront of other towns, and was being followed by the University of Birmingham.

The new Maternity Department begins work with a superintendent and one other trained midwife, and accommodation will be provided for from six to eight midwives and four pupils in training.

A meeting of King Edward VII. Coronation National Fund for Nurses in Ireland was recently held at 86, Lower Leeson Street, Dublin. Sir William Thomson, C.B., presided. Applications for membership were accepted from fourteen nurses,

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