

house Visiting Committee recommended the Board to apply for the registration of the Buckingham Palace Road Workhouse of the Union by the Central Midwives' Board as a Training-School for Nurses.

The Infirmary Committee, on the other hand, opposed the step, on the ground that "such registration would disorganise the arrangements at the infirmary, and that no institution under the control of the Guardians should be made a place for public institution." Surely this argument, if carried to a logical conclusion, would abolish every nurse-training school in connection with Poor Law Infirmaries. It is certain that nothing has more conduced to the efficiency of the nursing in such institutions than the inauguration and maintenance of such schools.

The part doctors and nurses may play in promoting international cordiality is exemplified in a letter read at a meeting of the Board of the Sheffield Royal Hospital from Osias Kroucke, a Russian, one of the sufferers in the Cudworth railway accident, who had been treated at the institution. The writer states:—"The care and attention I have received have been so great and so constant that it is with feelings of sincerest gratitude that I write you this letter. Permit me to mention especially the unremitting care shown by the doctors and by the staff; the zeal and devotion to all my requirements shown by the Matron, the Sister, the Ward Sister, and the nurses. All gave freely of their energies to restore health to one who was a stranger in a land which has now become very home-like to him. I shall be obliged by your making known to all those I have mentioned my fervent thanks for their goodness to me. The treatment I have received has awakened in me the kindest feelings towards Englishmen and their wonderful institutions, such as the one in which I have dwelt the last few weeks. As a practical outcome of my gratitude, may I ask your kind acceptance of £25 in bank-notes, a donation to the funds of the hospital."

Dr. E. C. Thompson (Monaghan, North) recently asked the Chief Secretary for Ireland in the House of Commons whether he was aware that, by the arrangements enforced by the Local Government Board for Ireland in its nursing circulars, the Irish county hospitals were not recognised as training-schools and nurses trained in these institutions were debarred from occupying the position of charge nurses for district hospitals; and whether, in view of the experience of leading physicians and surgeons in this matter and of the fact that nurses so trained were recognised as trained nurses in Great Britain and by the English Local Government Board, he would take steps to abrogate the rule in Ireland.—Mr. Long answered: Many of the Irish county hospitals are recognised as training-schools for nurses,

and the Local Government Board regards as "qualified nurses" persons who have obtained certificates of proficiency from these institutions. In order to encourage the appointment of at least one qualified nurse in each Irish workhouse it is provided by Section 58 of the Local Government Act of 1898 that one-half of the salary of such nurse shall be recouped from the local taxation account; and to ensure that none but nurses of high qualifications should obtain these appointments the Board only recognises the certificates of general, clinical, or other hospitals where there are a good teaching staff and a large number of beds available for instruction. The present arrangement has been found to work satisfactorily, and has received the approval of the medical profession generally.

Dr. Thompson further asked the Chief Secretary for Ireland whether he would lay upon the table of the House the report of the Medical Inspector of the Local Government Board as to the capabilities of the Tyrone county hospitals for training nurses. Mr. Long said: Such reports are confidential documents intended for the information of the Board, and it would be contrary to the invariable practice to make them public.

Miss L. L. Dock writes:—"I have just been reading von Lindheim's 'Aufgabe und Bedeutung der Krankenpflege im Modernen Staate,' and thought you would be interested to know what he says of English nurses. He calls England the 'pattern land of nursing,' and says that the hospitals of Great Britain are institutions from which all lands might copy. Of the nurses he says:—"With rare exceptions the English nurse is of an amiable, cheerful nature, more inclined to joyousness than to ill-temper, gentle and friendly with her patients, who in general regard her with a certain reverence and childlike affection. Three characteristics are not lacking in any nurse—viz., unselfish devotion, absolute reliability, and unconditional obedience. So far as her bearing towards the physician can be estimated, it is, when off duty, a natural, cheerful one, rather disposed to playfulness without overstepping the bounds of propriety or mutual respect. The freedom, physical development, and self-reliance of the English woman react upon her nursing work to the benefit of the patient and the whole service. When the nurse returns to her ward from 'off duty,' she brings something stimulating with her, and her smiling and sunburned countenance speaks to the patients of spring-like joy and freshness."

An article in the *Zeitschrift für Krankenpflege*, headed "The New Text-Book for Midwives and the Social Position of the Midwife," says that the new official text-book for midwives, published some eight months ago by the Prussian Government, is bound to improve indirectly the whole class of mid-

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