

Nurse Lynch and Dr. Coffey having given evidence, Dr. Mulcahy said that Mrs. O'Brien had suggested to him that the place would not be properly worked till the whole lot were cleared out.

Mr. Norman said Mrs. O'Brien represented to him that the institution was badly managed, and that the Matron and nurses were very seldom to be found in the institution, and that they were always in the streets outside. As a result of his enquiries he let drop a resolution he had proposed to move.

For the defence, the Solicitor-General said Miss Mayne had been bossing the institution for years. Mrs. O'Brien in her capacity as a Governor had interfered in some matters. She had got up a ball for the benefit of the Infirmary. She objected to the nurses attending in evening dress "to take the floor with the best"; she considered they should go in uniform. It was plain from the attitude of the plaintiff that she regarded the institution as hers.

Mrs. O'Brien said she visited the infirmary on the Sunday referred to. Miss Mayne was carving a piece of beef. The defendant saw it was not roasting beef, and should have been boiled. She asked Miss Mayne what part of the carcase it was. Miss Mayne told her to see for herself.

The jury found that Miss Mayne did not throw the iodoform, and was not a party to the throwing of it. They could not agree as to whether the defendant was guilty of malice in publishing the words complained of.

We congratulate Miss Mayne on successfully vindicating her professional reputation. It is greatly to be regretted that any governor of a hospital should adopt the position assumed by Mrs. O'Brien, and it is doubtless because some women are not able to appreciate the relative position of Governor and Matron, and interfere in details, that there is an undoubted prejudice against the appointment of women in this capacity. No Matron will stand being hectored before her subordinates, nor is there any reason why she should. The attitude of Mrs. O'Brien is not that of helpfulness to the hospital officials, but of a wealthy patron, supercilious and overbearing to women not so well off as herself, but who nevertheless maintain themselves by their own work and skill in an honourable position. As for nurses attending dances in uniform, we consider it most inappropriate. Mrs. O'Brien was apparently desirous of teaching Miss Mayne her place. We wish we could think she had learnt her own.

CHARGE AGAINST A TRAINED NURSE.

Madeline Aspinwall, stated to be a trained nurse, who, with her mother, whom she had been nursing for two years, was found to be suffering from opium poisoning, was arrested on a charge of attempted suicide. The mother has since died from the effects of the poison. The prisoner, who appeared in the Sheffield Police Court on Monday, has been remanded for a week.

Nursing Echoes.

* * *All communications must be duly authenticated with name and address, not for publication, but as evidence of good faith, and should be addressed to the Editor, 30, Upper Wimpole Street, W.*



Attention to the physical condition of children in the elementary schools is an important branch of public work, but for it to be effected in the best manner it must be systematised. Started as an experiment some twelve years ago in connection with the Central Home for District Nurses, in Bloomsbury, its value was so apparent that the London School Nurses' Society was formed shortly afterwards. The difficulty in connection with school nursing is to occupy the whole time of a nurse, and it seems that, as has been suggested, the best method would be to organise this work through the Queen Victoria's Jubilee Institute for Nurses. It must not, however, be forgotten that a nurse cannot work independently, and that medical officers, to whom the nurses can report, and who should periodically inspect the schools, should be appointed where nurses are at work.

The third anniversary gathering of the Nurses' Missionary Union, which was held at University Hall, Gordon Square, W.C., was well attended, there being some eighty nurses (representing seventeen hospitals in or near London), as well as a large number of friends and sympathisers. Amongst the speakers were Miss Borrow, of the Student Volunteer Missionary Union, Miss Van Sommer, who has several times paid a visit to West African Missions, the secretary, Miss Kathleen Miller, who spoke on "A Nurse's Opportunities," Miss Margaret Bretherton, Dr. Herbert Lancaster, of the Church Missionary Society, Mr. Arthur Neve, F.R.C.S., of Kashmir, and others.

The Marie Celeste Wards at the London Hospital—the new maternity wards—are to be opened on July 17th. The training given to pupil midwives, who will receive it partly in the wards of the hospital and partly in the surrounding district, will be for three months, for which a fee of twenty guineas will be charged. This covers board, lodging, instruction, and an allowance of 2s. 6d. weekly for washing. The indoor uniform worn by the pupil midwives will be that of the Staff nurses of the Hospital, the outdoor uniform being that of the private nursing staff, which will be lent, unless the pupil prefers to provide her own. Applications from those desirous of obtaining this training are now being received.

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