

At a recent meeting of the North Dublin Board of Guardians the following letter, addressed to the Chairman, was read:—

PROTEST FROM THE IRISH NURSES' ASSOCIATION.

"SIR,—The Irish Nurses' Association respectfully wish to enter a protest against, and to state their objection to, the proposed scheme for training nurses in your infirmary on the following grounds—(1) that the period of training is not for three years; (2) that the fee of £20 is asked for training, and that an adequate number of trained nurses are not provided to teach them; (3) that on leaving the infirmary certificated nurses of inferior training will be foisted on the public to its danger and the discredit of the nursing profession; (4) that it is an unfair thing to receive young women for training who are ignorant of the disadvantages they will suffer later on.

"While strongly approving of the scheme for abolishing pauper nursing, we are anxious that the Guardians should start a scheme which would be equally beneficial to those who enter for training as well as for the sick poor. The Irish Nurses' Association trust you will give this matter your full consideration. I am, Sir, yours faithfully,

"S. E. HAMPSON.

"President, Irish Nurses' Association."

Mr. John M'Donnell, J.P., moved that a copy of the letter be sent to each guardian.

Mr. Long said it was simply a waste of money to print such a letter. The guardians were not going to be lectured and bullied by every outsider that called himself or herself an association. Nothing was proposed at the Board that somebody didn't object to.

After some discussion Mr. M'Donnell's motion was agreed to, and we congratulate the Irish Nurses' Association in taking timely action on a question of great importance to the profession at large, and on which they are more capable of forming accurate opinions for the benefit of the community than any other body of persons in Dublin.

We gather that, according to the Irish Local Government Board regulations, probationers trained in the Belfast Infirmary must leave upon the expiration of the three years' training unless permanently appointed. We hope a fair proportion of certificated nurses are retained as Staff nurses, otherwise the training of probationers and care of the sick can never attain the highest standard.

H.R.H. The Duke of Connaught laid the foundation-stone of the new "Alexandra" Hospital at Maitland, near Cape Town, on Saturday last, and in the course of an address said that Queen Alexandra's heart was very near to suffering people.

Reflections.

FROM A BOARD ROOM MIRROR.



The lead which Princess Henry of Battenberg has taken in the scheme for the permanent establishment of the James Memorial Cottage Hospital at East Cowes has had a successful result. At a meeting of the General Committee of the institution recently held the reports as to the completion of the legal forms were presented. Messrs. James, the founders of the institution, have endowed it with £10,000, and the money has been invested. The Lord Chief Justice is one of the trustees of the institution.

Islington Borough Council have approved the provision of sanatoria for consumptives, provided that the cost be defrayed by the National Exchequer.

Mr. H. Dudley Ryder, Secretary of the City of London Hospital for Diseases of the Chest, has just brought out a little book giving a brief, concise, and interesting history of the hospital, which is situated at Victoria Park, East London.

The Treasurer of St. Bartholomew's Hospital is having a steady flow of donations towards the rebuilding of the hospital. Mr. Robert Grey sends £100, the executors of the late Mr. Greatrex £50, the executors of the late Mr. Horace Harral £250, and Professor Howard Marsh has contributed £50 to the fund for the pathological block.

London Jack II. has been honoured, and he deserved to be. Jack is said to be "the most famous collecting railway dog in the world." For four years and a half (a correspondent of the *Telegraph* tells) he has been collecting for the orphanage of the London and South-Western Railway Company, and has, it appears, some £800 altogether to his credit. This would put the efforts of many biped collectors into the shade. Jack has just been presented with a handsome silver collar, and no doubt will fully appreciate the honour.

A governor of the Royal National Hospital for Consumption, Ventnor, has sent a donation of £500 towards paying off the loan from the bankers of £2,500 in the hope that the remainder will be obtained by the end of the year.

At a recent meeting of the Spectacle Makers' Company Lord Burnham, the Master, being in the chair, the Bill promoted by the company for the registration of sight-testing opticians was finally revised with the assistance of counsel and a deputation from the General Board of Opticians. The *British Medical Journal* states that Viscount Goschen, a Past Master of the Guild, will present the Bill in the House of Lords during the next session.

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