

Chelsea Town Hall last week. The annual report for 1905 showed that the number of cases attended by the association's nurses was 814, and the number of visits 20,391. It was felt that the association did not receive the support that might fairly be claimed from the residents in such a wealthy part of London. The finances are not quite so satisfactory as they were a year ago. No kind of work is more potent for good than that of the thoroughly trained district nurse, and the modest amount covering the salaries and maintenance of these nurses for a year might be discharged in full by many of the residents in these districts without being missed.

The fact that a fifth edition of the "Nurses' Report Book," by Miss C. M. Löhr, Matron of the Cottage Hospital, Potter's Bar, has now been called for, testifies to the popularity of this useful publication. It is arranged for Day and Night Reports for three weeks, and is specially designed so that each detail may be readily seen by the medical attendant. Copies may be obtained from Miss Löhr, at the above address, price 3d. each or 3s. 6d. per dozen, including postage.

A suggestion that the nurses employed under the Leeds and District Nursing Association should be allowed to travel free of cost in the trams was again put forward at the annual meeting of the organisation. The secretary in her report said that the £48 expended on car fares and railway fares was sufficient to support a nurse for a year. Ald. Lawson, the chairman of the meeting, promised to bring the matter before the Tramways Committee of the Corporation. It was his opinion that those who did so much for the people of Leeds should in some way receive the city's recognition of their services.

Miss Ellen J. Turner, the Matron of the Children's Convalescent Home, Great Yarmouth, has, to the great regret of the Committee by whom her services were much valued, and her numerous friends at Yarmouth, resigned her position owing to ill-health.

An eminent surgeon, whose operating fee is often a hundred guineas and visiting fee two, recently told us he considered "trained nurses a very overpaid class of women!" That is private nurses who received £2 2s. a week, with board, lodging and laundry. Now under the signature of "Medicus," of Droitwich, we find a letter in the *Birmingham Daily Post*

suggesting that one guinea a week would be quite sufficient salary for a nurse.

It is high time this attempt upon the part of men to reduce the earnings of women's skilled work below a living wage should cease. Male nurses, usually being indifferently trained, charge higher fees than the most highly qualified female nurses. Either the worker should receive remuneration which enables her to save for old age, or we working women will soon all be Socialists, and demand an old age pension from the State when we are tired of working seven days a week for a poor little salary.

The *Irish Times* has presented a spirited controversy on "Nurses and Their Duties." That nursing is a very arduous profession no one can deny, but year by year its conditions have been greatly improved. "Hard labour," of course, was not in it in our young days, but for all that the work was absolutely absorbing to the women worth their salt. The statement is constantly made in the Press that nurses are not permitted to sit down when on duty, for hours at a stretch. We wonder what truth there is in this statement, if any. No Matron or Committee would support such an injurious rule, and if it is in force in any ward, must be a local regulation, and the sooner it is abolished the better.

In these strenuous days, says V. M. MacDonald in the *Johns Hopkins Nurses' Alumnae Magazine*, when cases of nervous breakdown meet one on every side, it may not be uninteresting to hear some details of a recently established sanitarium for the Work Cure for worn-out nerves. On the breezy water-front of the town of Marblehead, Mass., is a large house called "The Handcraft Shop," fitted up and managed by two physicians with original ideas and the courage of their convictions. Here nervous patients are received, allowed complete rest for a time, generously nourished, and then, as a part of the treatment, given ever-increasing periods of work at some form of manual exercise, such as wood-carving, weaving, pottery, each of which has its separate department—under a skilled teacher. Very brief and simple tasks are allotted at first, and as strength and interest grow, the length and intricacy of the work increase. Patients frequently protest when first the materials are given to them, that they have no skill and can never do that kind of thing, but persistent effort accomplishes a great deal in a few days,

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