

Matrons and nurses on the central body, and held that this body should exercise the same supervision over the training of nurses in asylums as under a Registration system it will do in hospitals. He also argued that it would not tend to progress in nursing if the qualification for Registration in nursing mental cases were restricted to the Medico-Psychological certificate. He supported the view that the qualification for Registration should not be restricted to any one certificate but should be such as might be approved by the central body, thus approximating asylum nursing training to that of hospitals.

### An Open Air League

We believe it was Dr. Heron, the senior physician of the City of London Hospital for Diseases of the Chest, who recently drew attention to the closed windows by day and night, in the medical district of Harley and Wimpole Streets. Now several consumption specialists have suggested the formation of an "Open Air League." Every year in England and Wales consumption claims its fifty thousand victims. Yet it is a disease that can be prevented, and, in its earliest stages, cured. The antidote to the poison which works with such terrible potency is neither costly nor far to seek. By the simplest means of defence the nation may be so protected against this growing peril that the dreaded disease will lose nearly all its terrors. The establishment of open air sanatoria is a part of the scheme; and one purpose this Committee of experts has in view is to bring to the notice of philanthropists, local authorities, and the country generally the necessity of providing such institutions and the comparatively small expense at which they can be maintained. It is even more, however, by awakening the public generally, and especially the lower classes, to a proper sense of the value of fresh air that the League hopes to attain its end. By public lectures, pamphlets, and house-to-house visitation, it would preach the gospel of the open window. The cause is one that should rightly enlist the sympathy of the nursing profession.

"Death from misadventure" was the verdict in the case of Nurse Margaret Emily Cuthbert, of the Kidbrook Nursing Home, Blackheath. Dr. Toogood, who made an analysis of the contents of the stomach, said that he had come to the conclusion that the deceased had taken an overdose of morphia. That, acting on a weak heart, had caused death.

### Queen Victoria's Jubilee Institute.

The Report of the Council of Queen Victoria's Jubilee Institute for Nurses to Her Majesty Queen Alexandra is a most interesting record. The Council in reporting the resignation of Miss Peter state that they have placed on record in the minutes of the proceedings their high appreciation of the very valuable services which she rendered to the work of the Institute. They have every confidence that under the new General Superintendent, Miss Amy Hughes, the work will be efficiently carried forward.

The office of Superintendent of County Nursing Associations has now been allowed to lapse, and the inspection work has been rearranged in order to provide for the inspection of County Nursing Associations, all the inspection being now included under one system. Inspectors are to work from five different centres, North and South London, Manchester, Leeds, and Bristol, and one from the head office in London. Two Rural District Councils in a county where the County Council has delegated to them its authority under the Midwives' Act, have appealed to the Institute to undertake the inspection of their midwives at stated intervals.

The Council have appointed Dr. Cullingworth as a member of the Advisory Committee to their representative on the Central Midwives' Board, thus for the first time exercising the power conferred by the Supplemental Charter of having on their committees technical experts who are not members of the Council.

The longer period of training for midwives rendered necessary by the requirements of the Central Midwives' Board has led the Council to raise the minimum standard for village nurses from six to nine months. The larger number of County Associations have, however, already voluntarily adopted a standard of at least twelve months' training.

With regard to the training of Queen's Nurses themselves, it is under consideration whether it is advisable to establish, as an essential qualification, a three years' training in hospital. We sincerely hope that this standard may be adopted.

In November, 1905, a "Conference of Affiliated Associations in London" was held for the first time, and is for the present to be held every six months, with Lady Mary Howard as President. As a very strong wish was expressed for more general co-operation with the out-patients' departments of hospitals, the hospitals are to be supplied in future by the Institute, with lists of the affiliated district nursing homes in London and the neighbourhood.

The Council record with regret the loss of the valuable services of Miss Wade as Superintendent of the Scottish Branch.

Attention is drawn to the unlimited influence for good which is in the hands of Queen's Nurses; they are, in fact, a social power for the improvement of those amongst whom they work. Evidence is also forthcoming that the nurses themselves are more conscious of their position in this respect, and are anxious to equip themselves to carry out the higher ideals of district nursing.

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