

a good while to teach the lesson, but it had been thoroughly learned. Patients who have been in hospitals sometimes prove apt pupils when they recognise in their district nurse the same methods as they saw in the wards. The hospitals are sending on so many of their out-patients. Who has not felt for the poor mother who has perhaps several times a week to carry a heavy child in splints to the hospital? Now-a-days the surgeon asks, "Is there a nurse on your district?" If there is he sends her his written instructions, and an occasional visit to the hospital is then enough.

Sometimes, when a bed is badly wanted, an in-patient will be sent home if he can be properly nursed. A man at a foundry had his foot so terribly scalded by molten brass that amputation was threatened. After a while, however, it recovered sufficiently for the man to be sent home and put under the nurse's care. She had to call eight times a day to do the needful dressings. "And, Matron," said the patient when at last he was able to go to the convalescent home, "at the tick of the clock nurse was there!"

A fortnight in that home remains in the life of many a poor Londoner as the sunniest memory he or she has. The home looks right out to sea.

There is nothing between that delightful balcony and the French coast. The Matron is a trained nurse. It receives about three hundred guests a year, many of whom have there recovered health and hope and fresh courage to begin again the stern struggle for existence. Unstinted food, fresh air, genial society, and unlimited kindness work marvels. It is as well, perhaps, that I have not space to tell of these wonders, because no one who did not know this home could believe me.

L. A.

### The Wimbledon Nurses' Co-operation.

The Annual Report of the Wimbledon Trained Nurses' Association proves that even a small number of nurses who co-operate together are able to do so effectively. There are now twelve nurses on the staff, and they close the financial year with a small balance in hand. The total number of calls during the past year has been 143, 101 being supplied. The demand for nurses has steadily increased, and the committee feel that it would be advisable to augment the staff. The Hon. Secretary is Miss E. M. Roberts, whose wide experience as lady superintendent of the Nurses' Co-operation, 8, New Cavendish Street, W., must be of great value to the society.

### The Royal British Nurses' Association.

The Annual Meeting of the Royal British Nurses' Association was held on Thursday last at the Imperial Institute, and as adverse resolutions were on the Agenda, Sir James Crichton Browne was of course in the chair.

#### THE TREASURER'S DEPRESSING REPORT.

Dr. Godson presented and moved the adoption of the Treasurer's Report, which was a depressing document, but he is at least to be congratulated on placing before the Association a clear statement of its financial position instead of throwing dust in the eyes of the members.

He reported a falling off in annual subscriptions and donations, but an increase in Registration fees, "the result mainly of the efforts of Mrs. Strong, the Matron of Glasgow Royal Infirmary, and to judicious advertising." Expenses have increased, legal expenses to the amount of £28 12s. 6d. were incurred in opposing the Incorporation of the Society for the Higher Education and Training of Nurses (a quite unnecessary expense as other societies did the same thing without spending a penny in lawyers fees).

The *Nurses Journal*, the Treasurer stated, "presents a most unfavourable feature," there being a deficit of over £20.

The State Registration Fund, which had a balance at the end of the year, is now considerably over spent.

The balance of income over expenditure, which last year was £112, is now under £12, and the triennial Roll is to be issued this year, the cost of which is estimated at £100. No wonder the Treasurer is anxious. At the same time, more especially if only a Roll of subscribing members is published, instead of one inflated by names of persons who have ceased to pay their subscriptions, by those who have been married for years, still appearing under their maiden names, and by those long since deceased, even the Hon. Officers of the R.B.N.A. could scarcely run the expense up to this amount. It is noteworthy that the highest estimate for printing the Midwives Roll recently, on which there are some 25,000 midwives, was £213.

Mrs. Latter seconded the adoption of the report.

Dr. Bedford Fenwick pointed out that the subscribing members were only 761, whereas there used to be over 2,000. How was this accounted for? No Treasurer could regard donations as a satisfactory source of income. The Association must show that it is supported by the nurses without asking for donations.

Dr. Godson said they much regretted so many had resigned. He hoped more would soon join.

Miss Edla Wortabet said that when she returned from abroad a year or so ago, she thought it a great pity the Association should be in debt to the Treasurer. She tried to collect shilling donations to defray the amount. She was met on all sides by refusals, members declining to subscribe on account of the treatment they received from the Hon. Officers.

Sir James Crichton Browne said that the question of membership was one of general policy, not one in

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