

their generation to provide their houses with two doors, directly opposite each other, thus being able to open the one on the sheltered side only, and also to protect the hearth and its neighbourhood from direct draughts." After describing the local methods of baby management, which leave much to be desired, she goes on to say: "I have been acquainted with peasant life in nearly every part of Ireland, and have never met any whose fate is quite so hard as is the case here. Were they not the most steadfast and optimistic people under the sun they would have given up the struggle ages ago. The elements and all the surroundings seem to say—in poverty you were born, and poor you must remain, or leave the place. In their lives 'The tear and the smile' are always struggling for mastery. One time you will see a crowd working at their coops in their turf, and think from their good humour that they had ne'er a care in the world; next time you see them going off harvesting to England or Scotland, or perhaps away to America, and then the floodgates of grief are opened, and to see them would move a stone. At times one's deepest feeling is pity, at other times admiration for them, but they are always loveable, and prepared to take uncomplainingly their share of trouble, until things get too hard to bear."

The Committee of the Coventry and Warwickshire Hospital have expressed their satisfaction with the excellent work of Miss C. Hoadley, the Matron, whose care and attention to the domestic expenditure has resulted in considerable economies. Referring to this, the Chairman said the Committee thought that the least they could do in such a year of capable administration was to give the Matron the same salary as had been paid to any previous Matron. It would be remembered that the Matron commenced her duties at £70 a year, and this was to increase to £90 by £10 the first year and another £10 the second year. As she had done her work so well the Committee were of opinion that they could not do better than raise her salary to £90.

Dr. Chas. Rolfe, Ex-President of the Huddersfield Medical Society, makes some strong comments in the local press, on the conditions which he found prevailing at the Huddersfield Fever Sanatorium on a recent visit. He writes:—

On December 10th I sent in a little girl convalescing from scarlet fever. She was practically perfectly well, having been carefully seen to and nursed at her own home during the acute stage of this disease.

This evening, on visiting her casually at the Sanatorium, I was astounded to find her very ill, with a temperature for the last three days of 103° and pulse 150, and the neck full of huge inflamed glands. I found no nurse in the ward, nor could I get one for some time. The temperature of the ward was 45 degrees, as indicated by the thermometer on the wall close to the stove. In distant parts of the ward it would probably be freezing. Several children were crying bitterly, and seemed perished with cold. I found that my own little patient had a few days before been bathed in a chamber without any heating apparatus, and removed by at least fifty yards of cold passage and open-air from her ward. The ward doors were wide open during my visit. I could not find out from any source whether my patient was having any medicine or not.

I do not hesitate to say that had she been at home she would long ere this have been perfectly well, and that her present condition is simply due to bad management or neglect, or both.

I shall never allow a patient of mine again to go to the Sanatorium if I can possibly help it.

We hope that the local health authorities will at once enquire into these charges, as anything more prejudicial to the health of patients in the acute or convalescent stages of infectious disease than the conditions described, would be impossible to conceive.

The President of the Police Department *re* sanitary matters in Berlin has decided that in order to carry out the law respecting prevention of spreading infectious diseases, which came into force on August 28th, 1904, all persons employed in nursing cases of diphtheria, puerperal fever, scarlet or typhus fever, shall be compelled on leaving each case to have their clothes thoroughly washed and disinfected. The Municipal Council has already granted free baths and disinfection to all midwives and maternity nurses, and are now, on recommendation of the Head of the Police, willing to extend these privileges to all persons in Berlin who are engaged in the profession of nursing.

*Unterm Lazaruskreuz* draws attention to the necessity for Nursing Sisters to have access to books both for their own amusement and instruction and for reading aloud to their patients during convalescence. A list of books is given, suitable for the latter purpose, and also one of those obtainable from the library of the German Nurses' Association. This includes foreign as well as German books.

There is a long article on the re-organisation of the large Dusseldorf hospital where it is apparently proposed to try the hopeless plan of practically abolishing the post of Matron. As a substitute there is to be a "housekeeping

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