

The President thought that after the many years Miss Barlose had been with them it was scarcely necessary to speak of her untiring zeal and capability; they were well known to all. They were glad to think that she still remained with them. The nurses had 260 cases during the year, and paid 5,645 visits. It was not possible to put into figures the comfort and the relief these visits gave to suffering patients, but she thought they could to some extent realise their value, and they must all feel how worthy of their support was this work of nursing the sick poor in their own homes.

Lady Dufferin said she could not conclude without saying how much the Society owed to their Secretary, their Treasurer, and their collectors; they were most grateful to these pillars of the Bangor Nursing Society.

Professor Sinclair, in moving the adoption of the report, spoke of the qualities necessary for a competent district nurse, and pointed out what a large amount of training they required to qualify them for the practice of their profession. He also dealt exhaustively with the question of infantile mortality, medical inspection of school children, and physical degeneration of the race—in connection with all of which, he said, the district nurse played an important part.

Lady Helen Munro Ferguson who was very warmly received, and who always speaks most sympathetically and comprehendingly of the work of trained nurses, said that in no country, except America, were the sick poor provided with such skilled services as in the United Kingdom. There was no other agency in the world capable of producing such splendid and rapid results. Ill-health and defective children were intimately connected with defective home life, bad ventilation, bad food, and the want of soap and water; and it was just the knowledge of how these evils must be fought that the nurse was able to take into the home and impart under such favourable circumstances that it was readily accepted and acted upon. They might hope soon that the hospitals would be depopulated of those poor little "wasters" through the removal of the wholly preventable causes which led to their ill-health. It was only the ideal nurse who could produce such great results, and she could only produce them by putting her whole heart and soul into her work, and expending her best energies upon it. It behoved the supporters of the Association, therefore, to see that the nurses were remunerated so that they could provide not only for the present

but for the wants of old age, and they ought to see that the nurses, who were doing active work, lived under the best conditions, and had that recreation and change which ensured the maintenance of their good health, and, what was equally necessary to that success, their good spirits.

At the International Congress of Psychiatry, Neurology, Psychology, and Nursing of the Insane, to be held in Amsterdam from September 2nd to 7th, subjects of special interest to nurses will be "The Organisation of the Superintendency of the Hospitals for the Insane and the State Supervision for the Care of the Insane," to be dealt with by Dr. W. P. Ruysch, and "The Instruction of the Nurses, their Rights and Duties," when the first speaker will be Dr. G.M. Robertson, Medical Superintendent of the Stirling District Asylum, Larbert. In connection with the Congress, there will be an exhibition classified as follows: (1) The Exhibits of Dr. C. E. Daniels in the City Museum; historical documents relative to former epochs in the history of the treatment of the insane. (2) Loan exhibits of present day objects relative to the nursing of the insane and neurotics. (3) Instruments employed in the psychiatric, neurological, and psychological laboratories.

The Committee of the Boksburg Hospital in the Transvaal has accepted plans for extensive additions to the Hospital, including a thoroughly up-to-date operating theatre, equipped with all the most modern appliances, two isolation wards, and a Nurses' Home with fourteen single bedrooms.

In connection with the training of nurses, the East London Division of the British Medical Association, South Africa, has resolved that the Division does not approve of lowering the standard of examinations and certificates for native nurses. There can be no doubt as to the wisdom of this decision. All candidates should be required to conform to the standard in force or they should not be admitted to the ranks of trained nurses.

On September 1st, Miss Lucy Walker, who, since 1895, has occupied the position of Matron and Superintendent of Nurses at the Pennsylvania Hospital, Philadelphia, is retiring from active hospital service. Her home is still to be in America, in Pittsburgh, Philadelphia. Miss Walker is well known to many nurses in this country, having received her training at St. Bartholomew's Hospital, and she was present, and took part, in the Nursing Session, at the International Congress of Women held in London in 1899.

[previous page](#)

[next page](#)