

combe Mann, by £250 a year, making his salary £1,500. Certain members present refrained from voting as a protest against raising the salaries of male officials, so long as the Board persists in its ungenerous treatment of the Matrons in its service.

A letter has been addressed to the President of the Local Government Board, on behalf of the Workhouse Nursing Association, signed by the Hon. Mrs. J. G. Talbot, Vice-President, Chairman of Executive Committee, Miss Louisa Twining, Vice-President, and Miss Jane Wilson, Hon. Treasurer, pointing out that the proposed change, if approved by the Local Government Board, is one, not only in name, as has been stated, but one which would have a very important significance in the position of the Matrons, especially in respect to their authority over their subordinates. The signatories also enquire whether, in the event of the new regulation being passed, it will form a precedent for Matrons in Workhouse Infirmaries.

The Committees of Queen Victoria's Jubilee Institute and of the Colonial Nursing Association have also considered the question, and we hope will take action.

Irish Nursing Notes.

WOMEN'S NATIONAL HEALTH ASSOCIATION OF IRELAND.

During last week, before the close of the Irish Industrial Exhibition at Ballsbridge, Dublin, a most useful series of meetings were held in the Village Hall by the Women's National Health Association of Ireland, on Tuberculosis. At the closing meeting on the 7th inst. a conference took place on the question of district nursing as it affects tuberculosis. Her Excellency the Countess of Aberdeen presided, and there was a large attendance, including a considerable number of Matrons and nurses from the city hospitals.

Lady Aberdeen said the proceedings in the Village Hall would not have been complete without this special conference, and she introduced Miss Guy, the Lady Superintendent of the Royal Victoria Hospital for Consumption, Edinburgh.

Miss Guy, who was received with expressions of applause, said that the Royal Victoria Hospital for Consumption, Edinburgh, was not an hospital in the limited sense of the term. It endeavoured to overtake the various aspects of the tuberculosis problem so far as those were represented in a large city like Edinburgh. The hospital began its existence 20 years ago, not as an hospital for resident patients, but as a consumption dispen-

sary, to which persons of the poorer classes affected by tuberculosis might be invited, and directed. Close on one hundred patients had come to the dispensary in one day, and as many as 17,000 attendances were recorded last year. Experience in handling the large and varied consumptive material at the Victoria Dispensary soon showed the necessity, not only for sufficient hospital accommodation, both for early and advanced cases of the disease, but of the urgent need for a systematised plan of house-to-house supervision and relief. It was at this point that the trained nurse appeared on the scene. The nurse was attached to the dispensary, and received the names and addresses of patients to be visited, and got generally her directions from one of the physicians. In co-operation with the ladies who formed the Samaritan Committee of the Dispensary she visited the patients at their own homes, and by her ready tact and knowledge she gained their confidence. When circumstances demanded more frequent attention from the medical man she reported this at once, and similarly when there seemed more pressing need for formal disinfection or other sanitary measures. She made detailed reports, which were passed to the doctor, who, after revision, countersigned them. Suitable relief was administered when required, and light work was found for those of the patients who could do a little work.

Miss Fitzgerald Kenny, Inspectress of Boarded-out Children, L.G.B., delivered an interesting address indicating how, in her opinion, district nurses could aid in the work of stamping out tuberculosis. She said that if the project of establishing consumptive dispensaries were realised in Ireland the need of district nurses would become, not only urgent, but imperative. She gave a description of the working of a similar system in Paris, organised by Mlle. Chaptal, and referred to the satisfactory results of its working.

The Women's National Health Association has already made an appeal to several Dublin Hospitals, asking them to set aside one day in the week as a dispensary day for tuberculosis patients.

After the close of the Conference Lady Aberdeen invited all the nurses to tea in the Palace Restaurant, when much information was exchanged socially, a wonderfully useful method of spreading the light. Here the President of the Irish Nurses' Association (who represented Irish nurses so gracefully at Paris) was evidently delighted to converse with Miss Fitzgerald Kenny, the link between these eager workers being, of course, Mlle. Chaptal, and her most successful dispensary organisation for the relief of the very poor in Paris.

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