

of cases attended during the year 1907 was 6,339, the highest recorded. The question has been considered whether, owing to the success of the society, it should not increase the number of nurses, but the Committee have come to the conclusion to adhere to their decision to regard 500 as a convenient limit for the general staff. There are now 471 fully trained nurses on the staff and 18 eligible for election, who are working on probation, and 25 asylum-trained nurses, who take mental cases.

The Committee record their entire satisfaction with the administration of the office under Mrs. Lucas. They also state that the Nurses' Home and Club are most valuable adjuncts, three-fourths of the staff using the Home between their cases. The Committee feel the successful working of the establishment does great credit to the Home Sister, Miss Baker, whose interest in the Home and loyalty to the Co-operation they cordially acknowledge.

Miss C. J. Wood has once more gone into residence at the Nurses' Hostel, Francis Street, W.C., so presumably the kaleidoscopic procession of officials will now cease. The Nurses' Hostel has proved, like South Africa, "a grave to many reputations."

A correspondent, writing from Leysin in Switzerland, says: "The English Sanatorium was opened a few weeks ago. It is a lovely place, and most up to date, and from what I hear of the meals, six courses at luncheon, and nine for dinner, I conclude that every patient *must* become heavier daily. Leysin is very beautiful, standing 5,000 feet high. It is approached by a funicular railway from Aigle on Lake Geneva. It is a white world now, and I hear when the average amount of snow has fallen it is six or seven feet deep, but paths are rolled, and walking is very easy, but it must be strange to have the snow high above one's head. The sun shines generally from 9.15 to after 5. One rarely hears English spoken; more usually Russian, but French carries one on. I believe ere very long, now the English Sanatorium is built, Leysin will be as well known in England as Davos is. I hope to return a very good advertisement for its health giving properties."

*La Garde Malade Hospitalière* continues to maintain its high standard as a social medium and professional instructor. The illustrations of bandaging show a high degree of skill. In the nursing schools at Bordeaux, Béziers,

and Elbeuf, Noël was celebrated by delightful fêtes.

In honour of the Silver Wedding of the German Emperor the town of Charlottenburg is founding and endowing an institution for the care and study of infants. Professor Keller, now inspecting our systems in this country, is to be the medical director.

We read recently in the *Morning Post* that the standard of cleanliness and tidiness is much higher among the German working classes than among our own, and a dirty child is a rare exception in a German elementary school, and the British visitor, accustomed to the problem of the dirty child in the poorer schools at home, sighs with envy when he sees the rows of clean hands and faces, neat clothes, and well-brushed heads in the German schools. There are no rags; there is no evidence of dirt to eyes or nose; and bare feet are only to be seen in summer, when shoes and stockings are gone without as a matter of comfort and not from necessity.

Certainly a German would hold up hands of horror at the state in which children in this country are too often admitted into school, and it must be confessed with shame that the compulsory weekly bath, which is a feature of foreign elementary education, appears to be more needed here than there.

School baths, universally provided in Germany, generally under the school in a flat tank, would certainly add to the amenity of school life in this country, both for children and teachers, and also for school nurses.

From "Amusing Incidents of a School Nurse," by S. W. N., in this month's *American Journal of Nursing*, we quote the following instructive little tales:—"A child who was extremely dirty was taken home by the nurse, and the mother was asked to show how she washed him, as she insisted that she bathed him every morning. She vanished from the room and returned in a few moments with a teacupful of water. She drew the child close to her, and proceeded with her so-called daily bath. After placing her hand in the teacup, she rubbed it wet over the child's face, and proudly proclaimed to the nurse, 'and I do it every day.' The nurse's mention of a bath tub, wash rag, etc., was a revelation.

"In close contrast to this conservative mother was a strenuous Italian woman who, when informed that her child needed a bath,

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