

annual report that the twenty-fifth year of the existence of the Society marked the end of an epoch to which they could look back with much satisfaction and thankfulness, but the year had come to a close in a very sad manner with the resignation of their much loved and valued Superintendent, Miss Coleman. After the splendid years of work that she had given, they felt that they must respect her wish for a less arduous life, and must accept the resignation that would be such a blow to the Society.

The Westbury Guardians considered at length at their last meeting an indictment in severe terms by the Local Government Board Inspector, Dr. Fuller, of the nursing arrangement at the workhouse. Amongst other things complained of were the condition of the children's cots, the lack of water in water beds, pauper nursing, the night nursing, etc. Dr. Parsons, the medical officer, said that the Matron and nurse had carried out his orders to his entire satisfaction, and denied that there were any grounds for the strictures of Dr. Fuller. The patients suffering from sores were paralysed or suffering from senile decay. Dr. Parsons said that Dr. Fuller had dogmatically asserted that such sores could only result from bad nursing, and quoted the opinions of Sir Frederick Treves and Professor Goodhart in the contrary sense.

The treatment of threatening or actual bedsores belongs to the medical practitioner, but their prevention is largely a matter of good nursing, and on this point we should prefer the opinion of the Matron of a well-nursed poor-law infirmary to that of the most eminent surgeon, who is but little brought in contact with this class of case. We have no hesitation in saying that their occurrence is of extreme rarity when the nursing is really good, and is generally a sign of imminent death.

Miss Purvis, the Lady Superintendent of the Middlesbrough Nursing Association, and the staff of six nurses are to be congratulated on their good record of work during 1907. The nurses attended over 1,007 new cases, and paid 24,340 visits during the year, a special nurse being delegated during an epidemic of measles to help in bad cases. She proved of very great service, both in nursing the sick and in taking, and inducing parents to take, precautions against spreading the disease, which although not perhaps in itself a dangerous illness, becomes so from carelessness and neglect.

The quarterly report of the Scottish Branch of Queen Victoria's Jubilee Institute for Nurses states that there are at present 304 Queen's nurses working throughout Scotland, under 195 district nursing associations affiliated to the Scottish Branch of the Institute, in addition to the probationers at various stages of training. New branches were formed at Troon and Quarter, and Arbroath enlarged the scope of the work there by engaging a second nurse. One hundred visits of inspection of nurses in local branches were reported on to the Executive Committee, who forwarded reports to the respective local committees. During the three months 1,697 cases were nursed in Edinburgh from 29, Castle Terrace, and 27,264 nursing visits were paid. The receipts for the period amounted to £776 13s. 6d. Towards the £4,000 which the Council is endeavouring to raise before January 1st, 1,973 9s. 8d. has been received or promised.

The Local Government Board for Ireland has addressed a letter to the Clerk to the Belfast Guardians, stating that they desire on the earliest date practicable after the recent triennial elections to bring under the notice of the Belfast Board of Guardians the question of the appointment of a suitable person to fill the office of Lady Superintendent Nurse of the Workhouse, which has already been the subject of a prolonged correspondence with the former Board. At the meeting of the new Board of Guardians it was decided to postpone the consideration of the letter for a week during which all the documents that came before the former Board are to be printed and circulated for the information of the Guardians.

At a recent meeting of the Committee of Lady Dudley's Scheme for District Nurses, the Secretary made a report regarding her recent inspection of the nurses in the counties Galway and Mayo. She reported that most excellent work was being done by the nurses, and the great difficulties with which they have to contend. Certain articles of furniture, etc., to replace those worn out, were furnished. Further arrangements with regard to the new districts of Kiltimagh and Derrybeg were authorised for completion. Hearty and unanimous votes of thanks were passed to Mr. James Talbot Power for his generosity in repairing the nurse's house at Arranmore, and in making gifts to other nurses; and to Mr. Walker for the time and trouble he spent in the service of the scheme.

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