

cate" is practically valueless, and she must perforce enter a Hospital with full standard training or for ever rank as an "outsider."

It is curious to read how the gentlemen of the Board of the Macclesfield Infirmary regard the money part of the scheme. Mr. Oliver said "the scheme certainly did not commend itself to his judgment. They would, he thought, be constantly training Nurses for other places. If they had a salary for one year and none for the second—" Mr. Mair: "They do not get a salary; they pay a fee." (Laughter.)

The laughter and chuckling over the fees paid by the probationers for a farcical certificate and training reflect very little credit on the Governors. The ethics of the shop should not be carried into the Hospital Board Room, and Nursing should not be made a question of commercial haggling and barter. Not a word was said during the discussion as to the needs of the patients, and no one stood up to champion the cause of the sick poor left in the hands of these pupil Nurses. As a sop to public opinion, two Nurses of two years' training are to be appointed three months' day and night duty alternately, the trained Nurse on night duty to exercise supervision over the night probationers. *And the post of Night Superintendent has been abolished.*

A Nurse of two years' training is not competent to have the sole supervision of probationers, and the system of changing these two Nurses from night to day duty is open to many objections. The Matron, in extenuation of this deplorable and retrograde "scheme," stated to the Board that the same system is in vogue at Addenbrooke's Hospital, Cambridge, a statement which is utterly at variance with facts. That Hospital has not had—certainly not within the last fifteen years or more—and probably never will have, such a system. There are permanent Sisters at the head of all the wards by day, and there is a Night Superintendent always. And lastly, the probationers receive a three years' training.

The Matron of the Macclesfield Infirmary will not find it possible to bolster up the shortcomings and deficiencies of her own, by libelling other systems; and we are surprised that she should have brought forward as arguments such inaccurate statements with regard to other Nursing schools.

Desiring the fullest information, we applied to the Macclesfield Infirmary for a copy of the new regulations. Our request was not com-

plied with on the ground that the "rules are being revised." So that our protests are exceedingly timely, and we trust that those who are responsible for the conscientious and efficient management of the Infirmary will take this opportunity, and profit by the criticisms we have offered and the protests we have uttered against such a degradation of the education of their Nurses. It is difficult to believe that the Matron can be opposed, beyond conversion, to modern and enlightened methods, and the Governors are in duty bound not to permit their valuable Institution to fall below other Hospitals in the efficient care of the sick poor in its wards.

It is an encouragement to the Nurses of the St. Luke's Hospital, Halifax, to learn from the annual report that "since the appointment of the new Nursing staff a decreasing mortality had been noticed."

It appears to us that the Blackburn magistrates have taken a somewhat lenient view of the case of "Henry Jackson" who is described as "a big young fellow who has been a continual source of annoyance to the Nurses of the Blackburn and East Lancashire Infirmary." He was charged on a warrant with using threatening language to Jane Lawley, one of the Nurses at the Infirmary. Mr. Withers, who prosecuted, stated that prisoner had been committed before for similar offences. On the 5th inst., the Nurse in question went for a walk with a lady friend. When they reached the Bolton Street Goods Station, prisoner came up to them, and said that if they got him locked up again he would smash their heads. He then went away, and the Nurse complained to the police. On her return to the Infirmary P.S. Pemberton followed at some distance. When she arrived at Darwen Street Bridge, prisoner made his appearance with a large piece of wood in his hand. The Nurse seeing him ran over to the police officer, who accompanied her the rest of the journey. Prisoner was afterwards apprehended. He was bound over, himself in £50, and two sureties of £25, or in default six months' imprisonment.

Surely for so cowardly an attack—as he had been guilty of the same offence previously—he should have had a month's hard labour without the option of a fine.

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