

and Dr. W. Black Jones. It would certainly have been better to arrange for some expert Nurse to give the lectures for the women. Nursing lectures to be of value should be essentially practical, and it is certain that a Nurse-teacher can give more valuable instruction—with simple domestic hints and “wrinkles” for the benefit of her poorer sisters whose sick-room appliances are of the most primitive nature—than can a medical man. The women who attend these lectures so often say: “We *do* like a lady to talk to us. She knows just what the difficulties are for a poor woman with a family.”

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At the request of several Nurses at the London Hospital a course of ten lectures on Hygiene has also been arranged at Toynbee Hall to be given by the well-known authority, Mr. Wynter Blyth, the Medical Officer for Marylebone. It is a very hopeful sign of the times when Nurses seek for educational advantages beyond and above those which they are able to get during their training. The lectures on Anatomy, Physiology, &c., which are necessary for the examinations at the end of the first or second years are generally as much as the Probationer Nurses are able to cope with. But on the completion of her training and when certificated, it is of the utmost importance for Nurses to have the benefit of lectures on Hygiene and Sanitation, such as Mr. Wynter Blyth is about to deliver at Toynbee Hall.

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A VERY significant proof of the injury done to Infirmary Training Schools, whose reputation for efficiency has perhaps been laboriously built up by an enthusiastic Matron, by internal disputes and disruptions on the part of Boards of Guardians, is evidenced by the advertisements which are appearing for Nurses at the St. Olave's Infirmary. There the Matron has worked hard and against serious odds to raise the standard of training, and just when she had filled the wards with efficient workers the Guardians did their best to undo her good work by their interference and bad policy, with the consequence that a large proportion of trained Nurses have resigned, and their places are to be filled with one-year Probationers, whom Miss Evans will have to train for some time before they can be really fit to succeed the competent women who felt it incumbent on them to leave the Infirmary.

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A CORRESPONDENT writes:—

“There are more forms of jobbery than one. I was at one time acting in the position of Assistant Matron at the General Hospital, Birmingham, during the time at which Mr. Grant (late Secretary to the Great Northern Central Hospital) was the House Governor,

and to this day one wonders why such persons are placed and determinedly kept in positions of authority in public Institutions. His attitude to the Matron (a gentlewoman of great ability and devotion to duty) was one of uncompromising personal insult; so much so, that she refused to hold any verbal communication with him at all, and all business was conducted through the medium of correspondence. As Assistant Matron I had to fill up and submit to him daily answers to a list of objectionable questions, evidently designed to create friction between me and my superior officer. The last question on the list was: ‘How much of the Matron's duty have you done to-day’?! Further comment is unnecessary.

In those days, worse luck, we had no NURSING RECORD.”

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We are glad to learn that the Committee of the Great Northern Central Hospital now pay an inclusive salary to the Secretary of the Hospital, and for the future, secret commissions will not be countenanced. It would be very interesting to know the views of the Committee of the Hospital Sunday Fund on the subject of *in camera* commissions to Hospital officials. We believe that the accounts of the participating Institutions are submitted to them. Is it presumable that they were, when adjudging the awards, as well as the Governors of the Great Northern Central Hospital, kept in ignorance of the monstrous sums of money paid as commission to the Secretary? If so, surely their methods of inspecting Hospital reports must be of a somewhat superficial character. Any way, we should advise those responsible for awarding the Hospital Sunday Fund, to make a searching enquiry into this very grave method of misappropriating public funds, and exclude from participation in the Fund, all those Institutions whose committees countenance this particularly pernicious form of jobbery.

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THE Nursing staff of the Royal United Hospital, Bath, showed their appreciation of the Lady Superintendent, Mrs. Mathias, by presenting her on Christmas morning with a beautiful silver teapot, while the resident medical staff gave her some bits of valuable old china. Half-a-dozen silver teaspoons came from the servants as a mark of their regard.

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The Christmas entertainments at the Royal United Hospital, Bath, were much enjoyed by the patients. The Nursing and medical staff combining to make a very happy Hospital Christmas-tide.

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At a meeting of the Bath Board of Guardians a resolution was brought forward in favour of an increase of salary to the Head Nurse of the Imbecile Ward.

Mr. Hatt moved that the Nurse be given an increase of £5, speaking of her in the highest terms as a

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