

the Matron does *not* put such implicit confidence, is never on night-duty for more than two months at a time, while I, who love the light and fresh air of day, am always kept on three months at a stretch, and the period often even lengthens out to four months. And at the end of that time I am a pale, washed-out-looking creature, often really with almost suicidal tendencies. Again, many thanks for bringing out so interesting a discussion."

THE new Home for the Nurses belonging to the Blackburn District Nursing Association, has just been opened with accommodation for six Nurses. At present there are but three on the staff, but it is hoped to add to that number.

At a recent meeting of the Hull Board of Guardians a question came forward as to a subscription of £5 annually to the Hull District Nurses' Association, when Dr. Jackson paid a high tribute to the work done by the Society. He said "that that Institution had done, to his own personal knowledge, an extensive and excellent work, and he regretted to say, as it was supported entirely by voluntary contributions, that they had had to remove several of the Nurses, owing to the inability from the expenditure to keep a full staff in working order. There was no Institution in Hull more deserving of the support of philanthropic friends than this, and the Nurses' work is something amazing in its excellence."

It is a matter of congratulation to the Hull Nurses that Dr. Jackson—who is well qualified to judge—spoke so highly on their behalf, for there were several of the Guardians who, out of the ignorance of their subject, evolved some extraordinary statements. In "a multitude of counsellors" there is supposed to be wisdom, but there is often a large percentage of foolishness. And the most foolish have generally louder voices and a larger vocabulary of unpleasant epithets at their command.

Mr. Jickell began what was characterised as "a Methodist experience-meeting." He said "it was all very well talking about Nurses—he did not want to say anything against them—perhaps he might want one himself. He did not want one with 'long wings' on—(Laughter)—"but a good old-fashioned Nurse. The first thing they said was, 'Will you please send the servant up?'"

Mr. Pickering: Whose authority are you speaking on?

Dr. Jackson: They have no servants.

Mr. Jickells, continuing, said the Nurse then said, "Please bring me up my tea." (Renewed laughter.) She got her tea, and then said,

"Will you just make a little gruel, and bring up a little warm water; I want to wash her face," and then—

Captain Webb (without rising): I will second the amendment against the subscription. I have seen plenty of Nurses. I know they are a lazy, idle lot of beggars. (Cries of "Oh, oh!" and "No.")

There were many gentlemen at the meeting who were very indignant at these vulgar strictures on a body of hard-working women, and the resolution to devote £5 yearly to the Nursing Association was carried with only a few dissentients. By this means, for an expenditure of two shillings weekly, the Guardians can at any time command a Nurse for the sick under their direction. It is a pity that the handing over of so small a sum should have been made a pretext for so ill-merited an attack on the Nurses. District work is the last calling which would tempt an "idle" woman.

At a meeting of the Newport Guardians the ever-recurring problem of how an admirably-trained Nurse might be obtained for the very least possible payment, again came up. Miss Roddam, in an excellent speech advocating fair remuneration, pointed out that the Board had spent £27 in the last three years in advertising for Nurses, and in paying travelling expenses of candidates. She argued, logically, that such money would be far better spent in paying a proper salary to a suitable Nurse. She was not lavish in her suggestion that £22 a year, rising £2 yearly for three years, all found, including uniform, would be a suitable remuneration; but Mr. Charles Ash, in a tragic and warning speech, pointed out that "all found was a large order," and he warned the Board not to incur wild and reckless expenditure "in the dark." But his dire prophecies were of no avail, although his eloquence prevailed on half the Board to pause ere they committed themselves to the unknown possibilities of "all found," for the Chairman gave his casting vote in favour of "all found," and the future only can reveal the result of the rash act.

THE September number of the *National Review* contains an article entitled "The Christian Motive," which deals largely with the Nursing and care of the sick in our workhouses. The writer, Mr. Bernard Holland, appears to think that all such work should be done by religious bodies; and he contrasts some French systems of caring for the aged and infirm by *religieuse* with our plan of "reluctant Nurses obtained with difficulty at £30 per annum," with "uniform and rations." He thinks that "women

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