

At a meeting of the London County Council, Mr. Crooks moved a resolution that the medical Superintendents of the Council's Lunatic Asylums should arrange for lectures to be given to the attendants on the performance of their duties, and that examinations should be held. Dr. Forman and Mr. N. Robinson said that there was no necessity for the reform, inasmuch as the Council took good care to get none but the most intelligent attendants in their Asylums. Probably this is true, and probably Dr. Forman also is a "most intelligent man," but he would no doubt consider he does his work better because he has attended lectures and passed a professional examination. The resolution was rejected "amid loud laughter."

The *Daily Chronicle* commented on the matter, and received from an Asylum attendant a letter in which he stated that "at his Asylum there were no regular meal times, but the attendants think themselves lucky if they get fifteen or twenty minutes for breakfast and tea, and half an hour for dinner." This is a very serious allegation, and it would be well if the members of the County Council would enquire into the way in which their Asylums are conducted and take the matter seriously, instead of rejecting a sensible and proper resolution with "loud laughter."

At a meeting of the London County Council on Tuesday, it was elicited by Dr. Cooper and Mr. Crooks that the day attendants at the Council's Asylums were on duty 14 hours a day for six days a week. They had all their meals in the wards except their dinner, which was served in the mess-room. So that the grievance of these attendants is a very real one.

THE "Pearn" Convalescent Home at Compton Leigh, Plymouth, is a most delightful place, with exquisite grounds and gardens, and was the private residence of the late Mr. Edwin Pearn, who, at his death, handed over the property to form a country home for patients from the various Hospitals of the district, and it has been much appreciated by them.

But a part of the Home was reserved, by Mr. Pearn's request, for Nurses in need of rest and change. Eight Nurses can be accommodated, and can find everything their hearts can desire in the way of comfort and beautiful scenery. Hitherto the privilege has been extended only to Nurses from the Plymouth Hospitals, but the Committee are very anxious to extend the usefulness of the Nurses' Home to Nurses from any part of the country, who

are willing to pay for their accommodation. Particulars can be obtained from the Secretary, the Pearn Convalescent Home, Plymouth.

It will be remembered that, on account of the disorganisation caused in the City of London Union Infirmary by friction between the Matron and Medical Officer, a Local Government Board enquiry was held, with the result that the Medical Officer was held primarily responsible and much blamed. The Matron, too, was censured. The Local Government Board recommended that both officers should be allowed to continue in office for a limited time if they gave a distinct undertaking to work together amicably in the future. The Board of Guardians met on the 20th inst. to consider this communication, when the following Resolution was carried by the casting vote of the Chairman, Mr. R. Evans: "That the Board of Guardians of the City of London Union, after their own experience of the administrative failure of the Medical Officer and Matron of the Bow Infirmary, and after the opinion of your honourable Board upon the subject of their administration, regret to be obliged to inform you that they are no longer able, with confidence, to intrust to them the important interests of the administration of their Infirmary."

A New Nursing Home is to be shortly erected for the accommodation of the Nursing staff of the Royal Hospital for Sick Children, Glasgow. This extension will enable the arrangements of this ideal little Hospital to become almost perfect.

MISS CLARA BARTON has returned to America from Constantinople, where she has been organising relief to the Armenians. She remarks that "the problem which will confront the civilised world next winter is whether it will permit these poor persons to starve to death. It is one which demands immediate answering. The world has this responsibility upon its hands."

THE *Woman's Signal* has instituted an Armenian Refugees' Fund—to be distributed through Lady Henry Somerset—and £242 17s. 9d. has already been subscribed. Clothing for these suffering people would be accepted at the British Women's Temperance Association Office, 47, Victoria Street, S.W. Men's clothes are particularly required.

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Grown in our own British Colony of Ceylon.

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