

Again, the members must grasp the fact that their professional good name and status is now entirely at the mercy of a Council composed largely of Nurses under the absolute control of the Hon. Officers; *nineteen vacancies out of twenty-nine* having been filled by the Nurses from Middlesex Hospital and Chelsea Infirmary. The nomination of their own Nurses in such overwhelming numbers on the Council by the Hon. Officers—Miss Thorold and Mr. Fardon—is a proceeding which it is impossible to justify.

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We have no doubt, however, that the complete disregard of the provisions of the Charter, and of the Bye-Laws upon the part of the Chairman, the Honorary Officers and their supporters, so plainly evinced at the Annual Meeting on the 22nd inst., will arouse a strong opposition upon the part of those members of the Association who are determined, *at all costs*, to maintain the rights which have been accorded to them.

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The British people never have submitted to an unjust autocracy, and we feel certain that the system of tyranny by which the present Executive Committee is attempting to govern, will be most determinedly resisted.

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We announced in our Editorial in a late issue that an eight hours' working day had been adopted, amongst new regulations, for the training of Nurses at the Johns Hopkins Hospital, Baltimore, U.S.A. We therefore publish this week part of the paper, entitled "Statistical Report of Working Hours," by Miss M. A. Nutting, Superintendent of the Johns Hopkins Hospital, which will doubtless be of great interest to our readers.

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A COUNTRY Correspondent sends us the following:—"At the last meeting of the Newark Guardians it was reported that a poor man called Chick, suffering from partial paralysis, an in-patient of the public Infirmary, had by some means got his leg out of bed in the night. This was after the patients were left for the night. He tried to attract the attention of the responsible people, but in vain. At length one of the other patients had mercy on him, and helped him to replace the limb in bed. Although the Infirmary serves for 52 parishes, half in Lincolnshire and half in Notts., and has 40 beds, we understand there is no *trained* supervision in the evening after 8 p.m. until next morning, and no means of calling up the day nurse, or obtaining help in a case like this. And when reported to the Board no special notice was taken of this."

We are of opinion that until some determined and united effort is made by Parliamentary voters, to bring pressure to bear upon local Members of Parliament, urging that a searching and unbiassed enquiry shall be held into the manner in which the sick and indigent poor are dealt with in the country Union Infirmarys, that very little real reform will take place in these Institutions. That the sick pauper is a negligible quantity in the body politic is an undeniable fact, as he, with women, criminals and lunatics, swell the voteless and therefore helpless majority.

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UNDER its present energetic committee of management, the Bristol Eye Hospital, which was established nearly 90 years ago, has been making such rapid strides that it has been brought thoroughly up to date in all its details, and it ranks with the first Institutions of the kind in the provinces. The present honorary surgeon (Mr. F. Richardson Cross) and the staff have done much to bring it to this desirable condition, and its reputation has spread throughout the Western Counties.

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The able Matron (Mrs. Jenkins) lately held a reception at the Hospital, subscribers and friends attending in large numbers to inspect the excellent arrangements for the comfort of the patients. The rooms and wards were tastefully decorated for the occasion, and tea was partaken of in the garden, which presented a remarkably cool and shady appearance, considering the weather. The guests were shown over the Institution, and the members of the staff kindly explained to them the workings of the various departments. All the guests expressed themselves highly pleased with a delightful and interesting visit. Such gatherings do much to engender kindly and appreciative feelings between the official staff and the public.

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We have received a communication from two of the Nurses of the Cork Hospital for Women and Children, in which they say as follows:—"With your permission, we should like to say a few words on the "old-fashioned plan of making a profit out of Private Nurses." With regard to ourselves, we are wise enough to know when we are well off, and do not care to pose among the 'hungry' and dissatisfied. At the end of our training a limited number of those considered suitable are engaged on the private nursing

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