

would insist upon the appointment of at least one trained nurse." The same speaker, the Rev. Father Phillipson, stated that there were in the Workhouse from 500 to 600 inmates. In the Infirmary ward there were a lot of sick, and two or three were dying every week, and that ward was in the charge mainly of one untrained nurse.

The discussion on the nursing question arose out of the report of the medical officer (Dr. Howell Thomas) concerning John Powell, assistant male nurse. This gentleman stated that having regard to the fact that this nurse was a young tin-plater previous to his appointment at the Workhouse he had done fairly well, but at the same time Dr. Thomas emphasized the fact that it was important that all nurses, at the time of their appointment, should have had previous experience to qualify them for the work they undertook.

Mr. David Jenkins subsequently moved "That Mr. John Richards, the porter at the Workhouse, and late head nurse, be asked to give, during his spare time, instructions in nursing to the male nurses, and that Mr. Richards be paid therefor such remuneration as the Guardians shall then determine."

Mr. Chapman said that he had been surprised to hear earlier in the meeting that the Board had appointed an inexperienced nurse. He thought that to say that Powell was to be educated at the expense of the Board was the most outrageous proposition that he had ever heard of. Some further discussion took place, and a suggestion was made by Miss Brock that they should begin to improve the nursing "by getting a proper person to train Powell."

Mr. Chapman said he had up till that day understood that the head nurse was a properly certificated person, and moved an amendment to a previous resolution, viz.: "That a small committee be struck to take into consideration the entire question of nursing in the Workhouse with a view of remedying this defect." This was carried, and wisely.

At a recent meeting of the Kettering Board of Guardians, a letter was read from Miss E. Biddles stating that all the members of the Ladies' Visiting Committee had at various times received complaints from the inmates alleging unkindness on the part of the charge nurse. These complaints were so constant that at length some of the members of the Committee considered it their duty to record them in the visitors' book. The committee were actuated

only by a desire for the well-being of the inmates, and would like to know that there were no grounds for the complaints expressed, but they were still strongly of opinion, notwithstanding the inspector's report that he found the inmates comfortable, that the matter ought to be investigated. It was decided that the matter should be investigated at the next meeting, and that the nurse and ladies' committee should each be allowed legal assistance.

A NURSE writes from Russia :—

"I have been rather surprised on reading Miss Kimber's paper, to see that her idea of visiting nurses should be spoken of as a novelty; I thought there were many of them scattered about England, and especially in Cambridge; so much did I think of it as a regular branch of the profession that I quite intended working in that manner myself if I could get a good start. Here in St. Petersburg a monthly nurse in the English sense of the word does not exist, some ladies it is true, keep a nurse in the house for a week or ten days after a confinement, but the general practice is to have one for the birth and for her to call in twice a day afterwards as long as her services are required. A birth in England always seems to me to be conducted on a needlessly expensive scale, if it is true, as I am told, that a special doctor is called, and a nurse always kept for a month in the house."

In a paper read before the Metropolitan Trained Nurses' Club of the City of New York, Miss Olivia Grafstrom advocated that trained nurses should unite, and put a stop to the abuses which it is well known flourish in connection with the practice of so-called massage, both because persons practically ignorant of the art of mechano-therapy claim to be, and are employed as, expert rubbers, and also because the term "massage" is one beneath which vice loves to hide herself. Miss Grafstrom believes in the motto "Help yourself," and considers that if trained nurses will adopt it, it will lead them on to victory. She stated that she had consulted several lawyers upon the subject, and was positive that she could get a Bill through the Senate and Assembly at Albany, restricting the practice of mechano-therapy within New York State to nurses graduated from training schools with a two years' course. She further stated that she would, in the near future, give all the details regarding legal costs, and the method to be pursued to attain this desirable end.

Will English nurses wait to learn the lesson of self help, until they see the results achieved by its means on the other side of the Atlantic?

A MEDICAL man tells us that scientific cooking and scientific eating are matters entirely apart.

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