

nursing are required by the regulations of the Institute. This is considerably below the standard demanded of Queen's Nurses in Scotland, and further below that pronounced by the select Committee of the House of Lords as being the minimum period in which a nurse could be considered thoroughly trained. We believe that the Jubilee Institute has practically adopted the higher standard, and that to alter the regulation laid down would mean an alteration in the Charter itself, but we must hold that the sooner this is made the better.

LADY SANDYS has offered to provide at her own expense, a nurse for the parish of Ombersley. The nurse will act under the instructions of the doctor, and will attend only upon the poor.

THERE appear to have been considerable alterations in the nursing arrangements of St. Peter's Hospital Bristol, which is under the control of the Bristol Board of Guardians. A new superintendent nurse, and three charge, and six assistant nurses have been appointed. The guardians consider it advisable to train their own probationers in future, and decided to advertise for two probationers to serve on a three years agreement without salary for the first year, £15 for the second, and £20 for the third year.

CONSIDERABLE improvements are also being made in the nursing arrangements of the Infirmary at Stapleton, and a well-trained superintendent nurse has been appointed.

We have referred in previous issues to the necessity for drastic reforms in the nursing of the sick at the Workhouse Infirmary at Bridgewater, and are glad to observe that the Guardians are also awakening to a sense of their responsibility to the patients. At a weekly meeting recently held, Mr. A. G. Barham presiding, a report was received from a committee appointed to consider the question of the hospital nursing staff, recommending the board to appoint a head certificated nurse and two assistant nurses, the present staff consisting of one head nurse and one assistant. The Chairman, in moving the adoption of the report, said he thought the work could not be efficiently carried out with the present staff. Mr. Hennicker seconded the resolution, which was carried by a large majority.

We hope that the professional position of the "certificated nurse" will be clearly defined by the Bridgewater Guardians, and that she will in no wise be placed under the authority of the untrained

Matron. She should be directly responsible for the nursing to the Medical Officer, and to Guardians themselves.

THE evidence given in the course of the Local Government Board enquiry into the charges brought by the Liskeard Guardians of the incapacity of the Master of the workhouse, proves once more the need for nurses to be placed in every case under the control of a superintendent nurse. It also proves that, in some cases at least, it is necessary that nurses of a much higher tone should be selected for workhouse infirmaries.

THE Master gave evidence that he made no complaint against Nurse Pascoe, but he accused her of spending half her time in the porter's lodge. He made the accusation against the nurse to prove that the porter was not attending to his duties, he having reported him as lazy, disobedient, wasteful, and generally incapable. When he said this had been going on since leap year, he meant to convey that the nurse had been courting the porter.

NURSE BEATRICE HORNIBLOW, in the course of her evidence, stated that she did not leave, as a former witness asserted, on account of the Master and Matron, and this was a wilful lie. Within a week of her coming the medical officer tried to prejudice her against the Master. To a certain extent the complaint made against her by the Master was true. More care should have been exercised with regard to sick patients. When asked if she had stated to a Committee on a previous occasion that she had properly discharged her duties the nurse replied she might have done, she was "not under oath."

We wonder how much value can be attached to the testimony of a nurse who only feels it incumbent upon her to speak the truth "under oath."

A CORRESPONDENCE is proceeding in *The Glasgow Herald* concerning the "Treatment of Nurses," in which their nursing work is generally assumed to be excessive. "Justice" claims for them shorter hours on duty, fresh air every day when off duty, and writes:—

"Lastly. It seems unfair that nurses should be required to sweep, polish, and generally clean out their rooms. If doing such work helped in any way to fit them for their profession, I could understand the need of it. Why should part of their too short time for leisure and study require to be spent in this way? Surely housemaids might be engaged for this work. It must be remembered that nurses have to study for their examinations in their leisure time.

I am afraid that many of such grievances are not known at headquarters, or it is unlikely that they would exist."

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