

An additional grievance of the mother is that she has been fined on the evidence of Dr. Hutchinson, as to the state of a child he had not seen, for sending one of the children to school.

DR. HUTCHINSON, when interviewed by a contemporary, contended that he acted quite rightly. He was called to see a child, and found it suffering from scarlet fever; he was informed that two other children in the same house had shown practically the same symptoms some ten days before. He did not see them as "the mother considered there was no need for medical aid" but he notified all three in the usual way, and left the Vestry to take what steps it thought proper. Dr. Hutchinson further stated that with regard to the mother being fined 1s. and 12s. 6d. costs, 10s. 6d. of the costs was his fee and this he immediately returned to her. There is, however, no doubt that the laxity which is apparent throughout these proceedings would never be tolerated in a higher rank of life.

THE *Bombay Gazette* devotes considerable space to an article on "Nursing as a profession" in which it urges upon the well-born women of India to consider the advantages of devoting themselves to the care of the sick, and of entering regularly for training in the Indian Hospitals. There is no doubt that if suitable Indian women took up nursing seriously as a profession their services would be of more value to their countrymen and women than those of foreigners can ever be. They would have the great advantages of working in their native climate, they would understand the minds of their patients, and most important of all perhaps, they would understand the languages spoken by them, instead of being obliged painfully to acquire them.

THERE is no evidence produced however that a sufficient number of well-educated Indian women are forthcoming to train as nurses, and eventually to staff the Indian Hospitals to make it at all possible to suppose that the services of British nurses can be dispensed with for some time to come, and meanwhile they are, for the most part, doing their work well and bravely, while having to contend with many adverse circumstances. The difficulties of obtaining a sufficient number of Indian born probationers, will, we think, always be the early marriages of Indian women, the inborn dislike of Orientals to any hard, or continuous, or menial work, and, indeed, their obliviousness to the desirability of doing any work at all except in so far as they are compelled to do so in order to obtain the necessities of life. The truth of the dignity of labour will have to be instilled into the minds of Indian women for many a long day before they realize that work, instead of being derogatory, invariably ennobles those who honestly perform it.

Reflections

FROM A BOARD ROOM MIRROR.



THE Queen has intimated her intention of giving £100 to the building fund of the Victoria Hospital, Chelsea. The Duke of Westminster and Earl Cadogan have each promised to give £500.

THE Duchess of York has forwarded a quantity of toys to the Norwich Jenny Lind Infirmary for Sick Children.

In accordance with charitable bequests of the late Mr Woolf Joel, Messrs. Barnato Brothers have distributed among a number of London charities the sum of £25,000. In order that the various charities may receive the bequest in full, Messrs. Barnato Brothers will themselves pay to the Government the 10 per cent. legacy duty.

Upwards of £50,000 has been willed by the late Mr. John Wemsley N. Bentley to charitable institutions.

At a special court of governors of the Hospital for Sick Children, Great Ormond-street, to consider a proposition for sanctioning the expenditure of a sum not exceeding £5,000 for altering, adapting, and equipping the Nurses' House.—Mr. Arthur Lucas, who presided, referred to the purchase of the adjoining premises for a sum of £30,000, and explained that the convent, although structurally in good condition, was quite unsuitable for the occupation of the nurses.

The Committee of Management had entered into contracts, etc. The money was practically provided for by legacies, either paid or payable next year. Their action was forced by the fact that unless they had proceeded at once a delay of four or five months must have resulted. The Duke of Fife has promised an additional £100 towards the cost of the extension.

On Monday, the 19th, Cardinal Vaughan solemnly blessed the new home of the Holy Cross Society of Trained Nurses. Owing to various circumstances it has been thought well to make a fresh start under the patronage of his Eminence. A new house has been taken at 2, Ladbroke-square, Notting Hill, London, W., where twenty trained Catholic nurses have their home when not engaged in private nursing. This promises to be a valuable addition to our Catholic institutions. Only nurses with first class certificates are admissible. The charges for private nursing can be had by application to Sister Clare, at the above address. Although the chief work of the Home is that of nursing at private houses patients of either sex can be received at a charge of from four to seven guineas a week for board, residence, and nursing, this being exclusive of medical attendance, drugs, etc. Lady patients are taken for massage and Weir Mitchell treatment. His Eminence Cardinal Vaughan was met by the Bishop of Emmaus, the Prior of the Dominicans (Haverstock Hill), the Prior of the Carmelites

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