

prefer working for an institution which pays them a fixed salary, provides them with board, lodging, and washing, and takes all the responsibility, however long they may be out of cases. So long as the earnings of the institution are spent for the benefit of the nurses, this plan is a perfectly equitable one, and one which is more practicable in the provinces than the co-operative system.

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THE staff of the Staffordshire Institution numbers 97 private nurses, 15 district nurses, and 23 probationers. 789 private cases have been nursed, and the earnings have amounted to £5,194 6s. 7d., the largest sum yet earned. The nurses, in addition to their salaries, received out of the balance in hand a bonus at the rate of 10 per cent. on the earnings of each. The Committee record that they are well aware how much of the remarkable success of the work is due to the Lady Superintendent, Miss Shirley. "Her watchful oversight of the nurses, and intimate acquaintance with them, together with her special experience, enabling her to judge the nurse best suited for each particular case, have gained for her the confidence of patients and doctors, and placed the Staffordshire Nurses' Home in the first rank of Institutions of the kind."

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THE sad death of Nurse Evans, the Superintendent Nurse of the Rochdale Workhouse, from an explosion caused by the accidental breakage of a bottle containing ether, and the subsequent death of Nurse Barker, the other nurse present at the time in the surgery where the accident occurred, draws attention to the need for supplying ether in strong bottles. Nurses are, of course, aware of the danger of taking a naked light near ether, but in this instance no possible blame could be attached to either of the nurses, the ether ran out of the broken bottle, and there being a fire in the room at the time, it ignited and exploded.

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WHEN the accident occurred Nurse Evans was engaged in taking an inventory of the bottles, and Nurse Barker was counting the bottles on one of the upper shelves. The force of the explosion was so great that panes of glass were blown out of the window. At the inquest the Coroner stated the broken bottle was thick at the bottom, but thin at the neck. The Guardians have passed a vote of condolence with the relatives of the deceased nurse, in which the Coroner and jury concurred. Nurses generally, will offer their sincerest sympathy to the relatives of their colleagues who have met with so tragic a fate.

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ONCE more the vexed question of nursing uniforms in hotels is being discussed in the press,

and hotel managers are urged to refuse admission to their public rooms of persons in hospital uniform. We think this is a reasonable suggestion. If nurses wear uniform, as they certainly should, while attending on their patients in their private apartments, they might well conform to popular feeling, and don an ordinary dress in the case of the nurse taking her meals in, or otherwise using, the public rooms.

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DR. CALDWELL recently delivered the first of a series of lectures on advanced nursing in the Museum, College Square North, Belfast, the subject being "The Prevention of Consumption and Other Forms of Tuberculosis." The lectures are being given under the auspices of the Lady Poor Law Guardians, the Nursing Council of the Society for the Sick Poor, and the Ladies of the Committee of the Belfast Nurses' Home and Training School.

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THE Association of Asylum Workers is to be congratulated upon the Balance Sheet which it has just issued. Its receipts, from all sources, have been £350 6s. 1d., its expenditure has been £212 11s. 10d., and its balance in hand at the end of the year, £137 14s. 3d. We congratulate the members on this satisfactory condition. They have regulated their expenditure by their income, and, consequently, command respect as a self-supporting professional association. We hope this wise policy will be continued and that the Asylum workers will strenuously oppose the adoption of any other position. Extravagant expenditure, and subsequent pauperization, by means of matinees, cafes chantants, and what not, are inevitably demoralizing, and should be, at all costs, avoided.

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THE Annual Meeting of the Asylum Workers' Association took place at the Medical Society's Room, 11, Chandos Street, Cavendish Square, on Monday last. Sir James Crichton Browne presided. In his opening address the Chairman touched on the question of pensions for asylum workers, also on their education. With regard to the latter he thought no legislative interference was required. We are glad to notice, owing, no doubt, to the direct influence of the NURSING RECORD upon his views, that Sir James Crichton Browne now strongly urges that all asylum attendants should have a year's preliminary training in a general hospital, or, at the very least, a year's training in the Infirmary of an Asylum under a thoroughly qualified hospital nurse.

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THE Chairman also urged that the public, more especially those who spent their thousands at Monte Carlo, should be invited to contribute to the Home of Rest Fund, but Miss Honnor

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