

paid all the year round to correct the Roll, and, with good management, the additions and corrections should be covered by the 5s. subscription of membership. Moreover, the Nursing Directory issued under the authority of the Matrons' Council, is produced free of cost to the nurses who insert their names, and if this can be done by the Matrons for the benefit of trained nurses, the medical managers of the Royal British Nurses' Association should be compelled to exercise the same business-like and economical management.

### Complaints by Canterbury Nurses

IN consequence of our remarks in last week's issue on the management of the Nursing Department at the Kent and Canterbury Hospital, we have received further authenticated information on the question, which corroborates much which we have heard before, and which we make public because publicity, in our opinion, is the only means by which interest can be aroused in the matter, and a new system of management inaugurated. The chief complaints of the nurses are as follows:—

1. That the food provided is both insufficient and of poor quality, and, in consequence, the nurses suffer from inanition and indigestion.
2. That the Sisters and Nurses are terrorised.
3. That, in consequence, the nurses dare not report themselves as ailing, and, therefore, remain on duty when ill and not fit for work.
4. That the Matron, practically, has absolute power of engagement and discharge of the nurses, a system which is always open to the most serious objections.
5. That a system of espionage is in force.
6. That the Matron threatened not to sign the certificates of training of any nurses who signed the petition to the Committee.

In fact, from letters before us, it would appear that a flourishing miniature Inquisition is in full force at Canterbury, which is a disgrace to that archiepiscopal city, and which, we hope, may be brought to the notice of His Grace of Canterbury.

We now call upon Canon Routledge, the Chairman of the Kent and Canterbury Hospital, to make further enquiries into the complaints of the nursing staff, which are unanimous, and to institute a different system of management in the hospital, for which he is primarily responsible. The time has passed for weak compromises, which are as futile as they are blameworthy.

The Committee must also realize that they are being censured for their attitude in this matter.

### Nursing Organization.

(Continued from page 313.)

#### SEVENTH ANNUAL REPORT OF THE ALUMNÆ ASSOCIATION OF THE JOHNS HOPKINS' HOSPITAL.

WE are reprinting this Report in full, as we think it will be of interest to British nurses to read it and realise how wide is the scope of trained Nurses' Leagues, and how much the Johns Hopkins nurses have already accomplished by professional co-operation for mutual help.

#### REPORT OF HOUSE COMMITTEE.

June 1st, 1899.

It will be remembered that at the last annual meeting various suggestions were brought forward and discussed concerning the possibilities of more room, and consequently greater comfort for the Nurses' Club.

The advisability of selling the old house, and using the proceeds, together with the \$5,000 left to the Association by Mr. Graffin towards the purchase of a larger and more suitable house; building a new house on more distinctly club lines, on a building association plan; were the two suggestions that met with the most favour.

It was intimated that Mr. William Graffin was very averse to the selling or letting the house on North Avenue, and had hinted that if the nurses would remain there, he would be willing to assist in the erection of an addition, but how great his help would be extended financially was an uncertain quantity. It was agreed finally that the whole matter be left undecided, and that in the autumn any interested members should present more definite plans for further consideration.

Shortly after the annual meeting, Mr. William Graffin notified the President of the Association that he had had plans prepared by a builder for the erection of an addition to the Club which he desired to bring before the nurses for their approval. It was estimated to cost about \$6,000, and Mr. Graffin stated that if the Association would remain in the house his father had given, and undertake the putting up of a building in the rear that would meet all present needs, he would pay half the estimated cost—\$3,000.

A special meeting of the Association was called, and it was decided to accept Mr. Graffin's offer, with the understanding that the Association should choose its own builder, and have entire liberty to make its own plans.

The House Committee was empowered to arrange all details.

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