

was still retained, and has been adopted by newer institutions.

THE Scarborough Guardians are still in a difficulty about their nursing staff, and we fear they will remain so until they alter the conditions of work. At the last meeting, the Chairman of the House Committee had again to announce that two out of the three nurses who had been selected as candidates for two vacancies, had, after going over the infirmary and ascertained the duties, declined to accept office. When will it dawn upon these Guardians that, if they wish to obtain the services of suitable nurses, the work required of them must be capable of fulfilment by conscientious women.

FROM the published report of the York Home for Nurses, it appears that the Private Nursing Account and the District Nursing Account are separately kept. We are very glad to observe this, because, although it is the only just basis, it is far too common for district nursing work to be maintained to a considerable extent out of the earnings of private nurses. If private nurses desire to give generous donations to district nursing work, then these should be acknowledged as such, but their earnings should not be appropriated, and used, except by their own desire.

THE Bangor and Beaumaris Guardians, who recently advertised for a nurse for their workhouse hospital, stating that a knowledge of Welsh was essential, have done wisely to adhere to this requirement notwithstanding the fact that some efforts were made, at a recent meeting, to rescind this very necessary regulation. Those who know the desolation of being ill in a foreign country, where there is no possibility of explaining one's needs to those around one, can form some idea of the feeling of Welsh-speaking patients in an infirmary nursed by English nurses unacquainted with Welsh. It is certain that a most essential qualification, if the comfort and well-being of the patients is considered, is that the nurse appointed should understand what they say, and should be able to make herself understood by them.

THE Royal Aberdeen Hospital for Sick Children is doing an excellent work, in which it is greatly aided by the Bidda Convalescent Home, Culter, which is, to a large extent, generously maintained by Miss Lumsden, of Camphill. It was open last year from May 30th to October 28th, and during this time 51 children and 4 nurses were received in turn. In submitting the annual report of the Hospital to the contributors, the Directors expressed their hearty

thanks to Miss Lumsden, the Hon. Superintendent. It is scarcely possible to estimate the value of the work of a really efficient Superintendent of an institution. Certain it is that the personality of a Superintendent, and her pervading influence, makes or mars its popularity.

THE St. Patrick's Nurses' Home, 101, St. Stephen's Green, Dublin, which is affiliated with the Queen Victoria's Jubilee Institute, shows an excellent record of work during the past year. The number of cases nursed was 1,900, and the visits paid, 34,957, as against 1,838 cases nursed and 33,001 visits paid during the past year. What an amount of brightness must have been brought into the homes of the poor, where the strain of sickness is always severely felt, how many lives have been saved, and how many sanitary and hygienic lessons have been inculcated in the course of these 34,957 visits. The value of the district nurse as a health missionary cannot be over-estimated.

WE are glad to see that a movement is on foot to provide trained nurses for Singapore. The President of the Singapore Nursing Association is Lady Mitchell, the Honorary Secretary is Dr. Glennie, and the Honorary Treasurer, Mr. R. N. Bland. Generous public support has been given to the movement, and by this time we hope that two nurses who have gone out are at work.

SISTER MARY REGINALD MURPHY, O.S.D., formerly of Cork, writes from Pietermaritzburg, under date of January 19th, that Great Britain's cause is just, that her action is purely defensive, and that the Boers are indolent, fanatical, and intolerant to all creeds except their own, and especially to the Catholic faith.

WE must not forget, however, that it is not so long ago that Roman and Anglican Catholics frizzled one another at the stake, for conscience sake, and also to this day the various Christian sects in Europe are proverbially intolerant one of another.

LADY CASTLEROSSE, in co-operation with several ladies of Killarney, has interested herself in procuring the services of a Jubilee nurse for the district. On the advent of the nurse, Lady Castlerosse showed her through the district, an action which, it is stated, has been "greatly appreciated by all classes of residents." This was a kindly act if it means that the nurse was introduced to those amongst whom her work will lie, but we hope that she was not initiated into her professional duties by an amateur, of whatever station in life.

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