

THIS is just one of the things which adds so much to the sad side of infirmity nursing; so many dying and chronic patients have to be cared for, that the work is much more depressing than in a general hospital ward, where "hope springs eternal," and thus makes the most severe cases light.

A LIVELY scene took place at a recent general meeting of the Scanthorpe Diamond Jubilee Nursing Institution, when Mr. J. G. Cutts moved that it was expedient that the Institution as constituted at present be disbanded.—Mr. A. Thurston moved an amendment to the effect that the rules be altered.—Mr. Poole said there was an under-current of bad feeling which was not for the good of the Institution, and it would have to be eliminated.—Dr. Behrendt said there had been a lot of malicious tittle-tattle gossip taken to the Lady Superintendent, and that had been the ruin of the Institution.—Nurse Dosser charged the Chairman with misrepresentation of a private interview with her.—The Chairman warmly denied the charge.—The Nurse, continuing, said she objected to the social position of the new Lady Secretary—her social position was not good enough for her to be put over her (the Nurse).—The Chairman termed this a downright insult; he never heard a worse one. The Nurse had impeached his Christianity and veracity.—The Rev. J. Keightley said they ought to dig a deep grave and bury everything unpleasant, and not vote on the matter under the influence of passion.—Mr. J. G. Cutts thought that they could not do anything until they got rid of the present Nurse.—Mr. Thurlston said Mr. Cutts' remarks were abominable, and a direct insult to the Nurse.—Mr. J. G. Cutts' motion was lost, whereupon the Rev. S. Cutts said he could not retain his position as Chairman of the Institution, and withdrew from the chair.—It was decided to call a special meeting to revise the rules.

WE fear if everything unpleasant in connection with this affair were buried in the "deep grave," as recommended by Mr. Keightley, the Committee and the Nurse might still find themselves in unpleasant proximity. By all means, let the resolution of Mr. J. G. Cutts be speedily carried into effect.

FROM the Annual Report of the Prince Alfred Hospital at Sydney we are glad to learn how greatly the Directors appreciate the good work of their nursing staff. It is stated that:—

"THROUGHOUT the year under review the efforts of the Matron (Miss McGahey) in the

maintenance of the highest possible standard of discipline, and of the general efficiency of the Departments under her control, have not been relaxed, and the Directors are conscious that the Hospital is very largely indebted to her ever-watchful care and skilful management."

AND also that "The Nursing Staff has continued to uphold its high reputation for proficiency throughout the year, and the report upon the annual examinations testifies to the high standard of study and teaching which prevails in connection with the system of training in the Hospital."

THE following is an extract from the Report of the Examiners:—"The results of the recent Nurses' Examination show that although not quite so brilliant as last year, yet a very high standard has been attained and the training of the nurses has been eminently satisfactory."

"MRS. ERIC MACKAY and Mrs. Sinclair Gillies have examined the pupil-nurses in invalid cookery and in bed-making, respectively; whilst Mr. Hinder and Dr. Mills examined in the other subjects. Lectures to the nursing staff on the subjects contained in their curriculum have been delivered during the year by the following gentlemen:—Dr. Chisholm Ross; Dr. A. E. Mills; Mr. H. V. C. Hinder; Mr. S. H. Hughes; Dr. F. J. T. Sawkins; Dr. Gordon Craig; Dr. Cosh; and the Medical Superintendent. Lectures on elementary nursing with demonstrations in massage and bandaging have been given by the Matron, and instruction in invalid cookery by Mrs. Small." A very good record.

THE Auckland Hospital and Charitable Aid Board have approved of an eight hours' system for the hospital nursing staff, and the change is to be effected as soon as accommodation has been provided for the additional nurses required. We are fully in sympathy with an eight hours' working day for nurses—if arranged on the King's College Hospital plan, by which each nurse is off duty so many hours a day—but we have never advocated the *three shifts system*, which would not, in our opinion, be conducive to the comfort and well-being of the patients.

A LETTER which has appeared in the *Trained Nurse*, by Dr. Thomas H. Hart, is interesting as showing that in America, as in this country, intolerance on the part of medical men towards trained nurses is not unknown. Dr. Hart writes:—

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