

WE learn that the Bazaar Committee of the Children's Hospital, Nottingham, have decided to postpone the Bazaar until the autumn. It seems wiser to wait till then, as both public sympathy and money are at present being so large expended on behalf of our soldiers in South Africa, and their wives and children at home.

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THE postponement of the Bazaar will give those who have kindly promised us their help a longer time in which to work for it. We hope that during the coming months deft fingers will fashion things useful, and things beautiful, and forward them to us for the Matron's stall. In the midst of a busy hospital life it is difficult for the head of a hospital to find time for the work necessary to furnish a stall, and it will relieve the Matron of the Children's Hospital of anxiety as to the responsibility she has undertaken in this respect if she knows that substantial help is forthcoming.

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IT is satisfactory to find the Master of a Workhouse advocating the employment of a trained night nurse. Too often these officials are unable to appreciate the benefits resulting to the sick and infirm from trained attendance. Upon the report of the Medical Officer of the Pewsey (Wiltshire) Guardians, which reminded the Board that a night nurse had not yet been appointed, and that some of the old people, apart from cases of sickness, urgently needed night nursing, the Master was called before the Board. He stated that it was very necessary that a nurse should be going round the old people's ward at night. They had a lot of old persons in the house, and under the existing circumstances, no one would know if anything happened to anyone of them during the night, as no one visited them. He quoted an instance where a night nurse would have been a great advantage, but the Medical Officer did not think it necessary to send to Salisbury for a special nurse. In reply to another question, the Master stated if such an officer were appointed, she would have but little to do; her duty would consist of visiting the aged paupers during the night; but he certainly thought they had enough old people in the house to justify the appointment.

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THE first annual meeting of the Norfolk District and Cottage Nursing Federation was held recently at Norwich, and was attended by many influential persons. The report of the Executive Committee showed a balance in hand of £167 4s. 7d., but as the first meeting was held in July, it was pointed out that the expenditure represents only half a year. It also stated that grants have been

made from the central fund to the local associations for training nurses, and the Federation has appealed to the Norfolk County Council to found nursing scholarships in the same way that the Suffolk, Lincolnshire, Nottingham, and some fifteen other County Councils assist the work in their respective counties. Though it has not at present been able to do so, the County Council has promised to consider the request when next the directory is under revision. The adoption of the report was moved by the Master of the Rolls.

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WE have every sympathy with efforts to provide nurses for country and rural districts, but we should like to have some assurance that the nurses employed are fully qualified women. We hope that all County Councils, before making grants to nursing associations, will see that this essential condition is fulfilled.

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AN interesting ceremony took place at the local Home of the Kent Nursing Institution, Tunbridge Wells, recently. Mrs. Smith, of Colebrook Park, President of the Local Committee, presented silver medals and a gift of money to Nurse Robinson and Nurse Westcott, as marks of appreciation at the end of eight years' devoted service to the Institution. Nurse Plomley was also the recipient of the bronze medal for four years' service. This Institution, with its three branches, is engaged in nursing the poor as well as the rich. At the last monthly meeting, the Dowager Lady Aylesford in the chair, the Committee decided to reduce the terms for nursing the wives of soldiers now on active service.

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IT is satisfactory to note that the Infirmary Committee of the Belfast Board of Guardians recommend "that vacancies be filled up by candidates who can be nominated after passing a qualifying examination in writing, spelling, and arithmetic." There is no doubt that the need of a preliminary test of the general knowledge of candidates who apply for admission as probationers to hospitals and infirmaries is becoming increasingly felt, and this points to the day when evidence of a minimum amount of general education will be required of all would-be probationers.

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THE need of such knowledge must be apparent even to the general public. The writing of reports with regard to patients, the deciphering of medical orders written on head boards, not only English but Latin abbreviations being commonly used, make demands on the intelligence of the nurse. Again, if her arithmetic is defective, it is very easy for her to make a mistake in calculating doses, and a fatal result may ensue. For the

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