

and got her up. The patient survived that, and when she was convalescent the doctor ordered milk and soda, and the nurse gave washing soda! He pleaded for nurses for the poor. When the rich were ill they had the best of nursing and every luxury. When the poor were ill, all their luxuries and most of their necessities went to the pawnshop.

We have frequently drawn attention to the impropriety of the insertion of advertisements in the daily press by nurses, who undertake to cure diseases, and we are not surprised to see a condemnation of this practice in the *British Medical Journal*. The line of demarcation between the professions of medicine and nursing is strongly defined, and a nurse who professes to treat disease, becomes, in the act, a quack, and degrades a most noble profession to most ignoble uses. Beyond this nurses have to realize that the members of other professions do not acquire clients through advertisements in the daily papers, and that they must follow the precedent laid down in this matter.

In the case of the medical profession any irregularity of this nature is at once dealt with and repressed by the General Medical Council, but trained nurses have so far no legal status, and consequently no central board of control to deal with the offenders in their own ranks. We could wish that our contemporary in drawing attention to the irregularity, had made this fact apparent, and suggested the obvious remedy, more especially as the offenders consist mainly, though not entirely, of persons who have only had some desultory education of a few months' duration, and would not be recognised as trained nurses were the profession properly organized. It is unscientific to treat symptoms instead of attacking the root of the disease, and if the *British Medical Journal* would demonstrate how not only this, but many other evils, exist in nursing matters from lack of the compulsory registration, and effective control, which medical practitioners have insisted upon for their own protection, it would do good service.

An inquiry was held last Saturday before Coroner Wynne E. Baxter, into the death of a patient at the Stepney Workhouse. Rosa Biggs, the Night Nurse, said that the deceased came under her charge on the 7th inst. On the evening of the 14th she found her vomiting blood. She did not send for the doctor; the deceased was too far gone for anything to be done for her; she died in five minutes. She had had similar cases, and always used ice, but in this case she could not get any. She knew

where to telephone for the doctor. An inquiry by the Coroner elicited the same old story. There were fourteen wards, about 100 patients, and two nurses. Miss Elizabeth Owen, the Superintendent Nurse, said no report was made to her concerning the death; she was first made aware of it by an entry in the report book. A verdict of "Natural Death" was returned, and the question of the nurse's conduct was left to the Guardians to deal with. We think some strong expression of opinion on the part of the Coroner would have been opportune.

The Bradford Incorporated Nurses Institution continues to succeed as it deserves to do, and we are much pleased to see that the just and progressive step of severance from the District Nursing Branch has been taken during the year, so that now both of these useful Societies are independent of one another, and without any other connection than that of good will.

In parting with the District Nursing Branch the committee desired to express their warmest sympathy with the admirable work undertaken by their late colleagues, and to express the hope that the new society would have a prolonged career of usefulness.

The money earned by working women, such as private nurses are, should never be appropriated for charitable purposes such as nursing the sick poor in their homes and hospitals. To provide for such care is the duty and privilege of benevolent persons. If a nurse chooses to subscribe to such work so much the better, but compulsory appropriation by so-called philanthropic committees is inexcusable, and we hope Leeds and other great cities will speedily follow the good example set by Bradford in this particular.

Miss Margaret Rogers has asked the East Preston Guardians to reconsider their decision with reference to returning her superannuation contributions; to retain them after compelling her to resign would indeed be scandalously unjust.

The Irish Workhouse Association is doing good work in endeavouring to raise the standard of nursing in workhouse infirmaries. The Report at the annual meeting stated that 77 trained nurses had been appointed in Irish Workhouses, and were doing admirable service. A medical inspector of workhouses asked for by a deputation to the Chief Secretary in 1897 had at length been made, and it was hoped that the

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