

House, and is a member of the League of St. John's House Nurses.

Miss Margaret F. Rogers, who formerly was Superintendent Nurse at the East Preston Infirmary, Brighton, has been appointed Teacher of Nursing to the Brighton and Preston United District Higher Grade Board School. In addition to her nursing qualifications, Miss Rogers holds a first-class certificate of proficiency in Hygiene.

Miss Sophia Wingfield, M.C., has consented to act as Hon. Secretary to the newly formed branch of the National Union of Women Workers at Macclesfield. No doubt she will do the work excellently and will also be able to give expert information on the Nursing Question, which we are glad to find many women are beginning to study in the country.

At a recent meeting of the Cheltenham Board of Guardians a report was received of the work done by the Victoria Home in connection with the nursing of out-relief cases. The report showed that during the past year 81 cases received attention, and no less than 4,563 visits were paid by the nurses. The Victoria Home receives £70 per annum for the services of the nurses in this connection, and it is pleasant to report that Mr. Clarke, as spokesman of the working classes expressed the opinion at the meeting that no item in the whole of the Union accounts is spent to better purpose than this. We believe that the guardians of every Union would do well to employ the services of a parish nurse as well as of a parish doctor, and that many cases might thus be cared for efficiently which now have to be admitted to the Poor Law Infirmary, the upkeep of which necessitates an expensive outlay on the part of the ratepayers.

In reply to a question from Mr. C. Lowther, Mr. Brodrick stated recently in the House of Commons that the South African war medal was given to all nurses who served in South Africa from October 11th, 1899, but the term "nurses and nursing sisters" applied only to those who had been specially appointed as such, and to the staffs of local institutions in South Africa duly recognised by the military authorities, and utilised for the reception of sick and wounded.

We think there is a fallacy in the statement of a medical writer in *American Medicine* who holds that "nurses must learn that a portion of their time each year belongs to the poor gratis," and adds "such is the noble tradition of our profession, and it should become that of nurses also." The writer also instances the case of physicians who can make a living from pay patients while giving a portion of their time gratis to hospital work and to charity cases at the private office or home.

No comparison can be made between a medical practitioner who does hospital work gratis and the trained nurse. To the former a hospital appointment means a recognised and legitimate method of advertisement.

Further, a medical man can by a single operation, lasting perhaps an hour, earn as much as a trained nurse who is in constant work can earn in the whole year. If a nurse is, with economy, to save enough to maintain herself when she is past work she cannot afford to give her services gratuitously, and this is a more estimable object in our view than to give her free services to the poor, when by proper organization, amongst those who can well afford it, she can be paid for her expert services at their current value. Nurses must be just before they are generous.



MISS ALICE MARY BUSHBY,
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