

Need it be said that a complaisant Council did what was expected of it and elected the Middlesex nominee?

On the steps of St. Thomas's Hospital on the occasion of the Royal Progress last Saturday were ranged the Sisters and nurses of the institution, presenting a charming picture in their smart print gowns and neat white aprons and caps. In the garden overlooking the Embankment, patients on beds and couches were also enjoying the scene.

The Southwark Poor Law Guardians have, after a lengthy investigation, dismissed three nurses. The inquiry arose out of a report of the Visiting Committee, which stated that an aged female lunatic at the Newington Workhouse was found covered with terrible bruises. Two of the nurses in charge admitted having discovered the bruises simultaneously, but failed at once to report the matter. The Chairman of the Board, in dismissing the nurses, said that it had been impossible to find out how the bruises were caused, but it was hardly possible that they could have been self-inflicted, one bruise being six inches long. It is very unsatisfactory that the responsibility for these injuries cannot be definitely brought home to the person or persons concerned. It is still more unsatisfactory to know that nurses who have been dismissed in connection with so grave a charge can still continue to practise their profession without let or hindrance, as at present there is no general Nursing Council which can protect innocent members of the profession or remove from a public register those proved guilty of grave offences.

At the examination of nurses at the Royal United Hospital, Bath, five third year's nurses recently presented themselves for their final examination. Eleven second year's nurses and three first year's nurses were also examined. The result was very satisfactory, the examiners, Messrs. T. Wilson Smith, M.D., M.R.C.P., and F. Lace, F.R.C.S., expressing themselves "greatly pleased with the advance in the standard of the nurses, both in theory and practice, in spite of the status now required, being nearly 30 per cent. higher." Nurse Rees was awarded the gold medal (presented annually by the President of the hospital, the Rev. E. Handley, M.A.), and Nurse Mackay the silver medal, while the prizes (presented by Mrs. Handley) for the second year's nurses were won by Nurse Drage and Nurse Johnson.

A new departure in financing Nursing Homes is indicated by the registration last month of the Parkfield Nursing Home, Limited, with a capital of £4,000 in £10 shares. The object of the Home is "to provide in Liverpool, or elsewhere, a residence for medical, surgical, obstetrical, and other patients,

invalids, nurses, attendants, and others; to train, employ, and supply nurses." There is no initial public issue. The subscribers are to appoint the first director or directors. The ideal Nursing Home should certainly have more capital than is usually possessed by nurses, who often risk all their savings in establishing such Homes, and are consequently harassed by pecuniary worry, in addition to being responsible for the nursing of the patients, and the efficiency of the domestic arrangements. To ensure efficiency in hospitals at the present day is a costly matter, and it may be that in the future Nursing Homes will be financed by companies.

The quarterly report of the Scottish Branch of Queen Victoria's Jubilee Institute is a record of good work done. The Council are responsible for seven Staff Nurses, forty probationers, of whom twenty-three are training in various hospitals, and seventeen in the Scottish District Training Home. Nine probationers entered on trial, none failed. Six nurses completed their training, and were engaged by local committees. Twenty-four branches were inspected and reports on the nurses' work submitted to the Executive Committee, who forwarded reports to the local committees. During the three months 1,229 cases have been nursed in Edinburgh, from 29, Castle Terrace, of whom 304 are still on the books. A legacy of £1,000 was intimated from the late Mr. W. J. Ford, of which Mr. Ford had ceded the life-rent, on condition of its being added to Queen Victoria's Memorial Fund; also a gift of £250 from Mr. Handyside, S.S.C., from the residue of the late Mrs. Margaret Lindsay, or Lyle. The Duchess of Buccleuch and Queensberry's Fund for Queen Victoria's Memorial (including Mr. Ford's legacy) has reached £6,545.

There was a lively scene at the last meeting of the Newry Board of Guardians, at which Mr. Agnew, Local Government Board, was present, the point at issue being the appointment of a Protestant nurse. The Chairman refused to receive various motions for the adjournment of the meeting, and directed the Clerk to proceed with the business. The business was to consider applications for the post of nurse, and the Clerk intimated that several applications had been received, but only two nurses had attended. These were read, and, on the Chairman intimating that the Board would interview the candidates, Mr. Small, who had moved the adjournment of the meeting, left the room, followed by twenty-one guardians. The same number, who remained behind, then proceeded unanimously to elect one of the candidates. It seems a pity that so much acrimony should arise on the question of the religious opinions of a nurse. The only points which should receive consideration are whether the professional qualifications of candidates are satisfactory, and whether they are personally suitable.

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