

authorities in not re-drafting their nursing regulations so as to bring them into conformity with the system of nursing in practice.

In our judgment it is an insult to the intelligence of the probationers to have required them to sign a contract for the last ten years incorporating a regulation which had fallen into disuse.

In regard to the late leave granted, our paragraph was not intended to convey that *every* nurse had leave till 10.30 every night, besides leave till 11.30 once a week, but that some nurses were out each evening until those hours. In this connection it would be interesting to know if the Committee instituted any system whereby nurses reported themselves in the building.

When the custom of granting an evening until 10 and another until 11.30 to the nursing staff once a week arose it is difficult to ascertain. Miss Gordon has said that it was not in force during her term of office. Miss Heather-Bigg found it an accepted condition of things on taking up the reins.

One thing is certain, that regulations as to leave should be formulated by the Committee and printed with other rules, discretion, of course, being left with the Matron to grant special leave in special cases.

A branch of Queen Victoria's Jubilee Institute for Nurses was recently opened at Sheffield. The ultimate aim of the Association is to supply Sheffield with forty-two district nurses, and these, with the nurses already at work, will, it is hoped, meet the needs of the sick poor. Sheffield will gain an immense advantage from the new institution. At No. 98, Gell Street, a District Nurses' Home has been founded, and here Miss Walmsley, the Superintendent, who has carried out similar duties in London and Liverpool, and four nurses have been living for three weeks. The nurses have already been on rounds of mercy, and attended cases in various parts of the city. By the commencement of the new year it is hoped that the number of nurses will be brought up to eight.

We are glad to hear that the Brighton Bazaar for the Jubilee Nurses of that town was very successful. Over £600 was taken, of which sum the nurses themselves took upwards of £100.

The Marquis of Zetland has provided the sick poor of Richmond with the free services of a qualified nurse, who will work under the direction of the doctors of the town. Miss Bloomfield, of Skeebby Road, who has had extensive experience at Northallerton, Middlesbrough, and Glasgow, has already begun the work.

Miss Brewster, Matron of the West Cornwall Miners' and Women's Hospital, has received from Mr. Treganowan, a patient treated in the hospital and now in India, a cheque for £21, to be expended in properly relaying the tennis ground for the nurses at the Women's Hospital, and in other specified ways for the permanent benefit of nurses and inmates. The letter accompanying the cheque speaks in the highest terms of the treatment received by Mr. Treganowan while in the hospital. The £21 has been raised by concerts got up by the sender at the Kolar Goldfields, India.

The provisional rules for the administration of King Edward VII.'s National Coronation Fund for Nurses have been adopted, and the following gentlemen appointed as Trustees:—Sir James Murphy, Bart. (Acting Vice-President Citizens' Coronation Committee); Andrew Beattie, Esq., J.P., T.C. (Chairman Citizens' Coronation Committee); and William Fry, jun., Esq., J.P. (Hon. Treasurer Citizens' Coronation Committee).

The Countess of Dudley makes an appeal for a share of English Christmas charity for establishing district nurses in the poorest parts of Ireland. She writes:—"In many parts of Ireland, especially those known as the congested districts, no provision is made for nursing the sick poor in their own homes. The population is purely agricultural and acutely poverty-stricken, and the Boards of Guardians in these districts cannot supply even the ordinary maternity nurses. The people assist one another, the poor supporting the destitute, but a rate in aid of the Nursing Fund cannot be levied in these districts, for that would merely be taxing the already over-burdened population in one direction in order to benefit them in another.

"Moreover, as there are seldom any resident gentry or well-to-do inhabitants of the middle classes, it is equally impossible to obtain voluntary contributions from local sources. During the past eight months sufficient money has been collected to establish and endow eight Jubilee Nurses: four of these have been at work some little time, and four more will be so shortly. But applications from districts equally poor and necessitous are coming in constantly, and unless the fund receives further assistance the answer sent to such applications must be unfavourable. I can perhaps best bring the real condition of affairs home to your readers by citing one typical case, that of Knocknallow, in a Western union, which I have recently visited. In this bleak moorland district of seventy thousand acres there is scarcely a dwelling of any kind except the wretched cabins of the five thousand small landholders, and so utterly poverty-stricken is the place that it is difficult to find a doctor who will remain, no less than ten appointed having resigned

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