

ing back in part the cost of their education. In our view, the education at present provided for them is, as a rule, a very cheap one. When a thoroughly comprehensive course is arranged and instruction is given by experienced teachers, the question of compensation may be considered; at present, by the end of three years' training we consider that a nurse has, by her services, given an equivalent for any educational expenses a hospital may have incurred on her behalf.

All the nine members of the Hospital Sub-Committee of the Stockport Infectious Diseases Hospital were present on the occasion of the investigation of complaints by ex-Nurse Griffin against the Matron, Miss Moss. Miss Moss, who appeared before the Committee, denied the allegations made by Nurse Griffin, but admitted certain technical irregularities as to the meals of the patients, and with regard to infected linen being allowed to remain. She admitted also having been rude to Dr. Young, the Medical Officer of Health, but she had apologised. The proceedings were of an animated character, and eventually a resolution was proposed that the Matron should be censured. An amendment was moved that the Matron should be asked to resign, but on a vote being taken it was decided to censure her.

One of the most pressing needs of the colliery villages in South Wales seems to be of a greater number of district nurses. It is stated that at present the amount of unnecessary suffering in illness and of preventable deaths is appalling, while instruction in the principles of infectious disease and the methods of its propagation are also badly needed. At present, when a death from an infectious disease has occurred, a crowded prayer meeting in the house laden with fever germs is arranged. A district nurse, of the right type, could do much to bring about better conditions, and to dispel the ignorance and the fatalism so common amongst a population of this kind.

Miss F. C. Sandford, who, as Matron of the City Hospital, Edinburgh, did such good work in that connection, will shortly open a small gynaecological hospital in the same city. We wish her all success. The hospital should be of benefit to patients and nurses alike. It is of the utmost importance that patients of this class should be nursed in an institution which is supervised by a Superintendent with special experience in the care of such cases, while the experience obtainable by nurses who specialise in such work will be of the greatest value.

The Clitheroe Rural District Council, which has arranged to erect a drinking fountain as a memorial to the late Nurse Stevenson, of Sabden, has ap-

proved of a plan upon which the fountain will be designed.

At the recent annual meeting of the Newtownards District Nursing Society, which is affiliated with the Queen Victoria's Jubilee Institute, the adoption of the report was moved by the President, Lady Londonderry, who said that the nurse had paid no less than 4,283 visits during the year. It was pleasant to think how much pain had been alleviated by those visits. She then made a proposition which, she said, would have the effect of broadening the basis of the Association. The principle which underlay the idea of maintaining a well-trained nurse by contributions was that those who through force of circumstances were unable to procure the services of an expert might, by the principle of co-operation, obtain a portion of the services of a thoroughly-trained nurse. During the eleven years that the Association had been at work she had constantly advocated that the working population of the town should be asked to contribute something towards the expenses of a nurse; indeed, the population of the town, by contributing a very small sum each, could ensure the services of two trained nurses. Good nursing not only alleviated suffering, but it secured a far more rapid recovery from illness than was otherwise attained, and, above all, was the means of preventing a great deal of illness. A maternity nurse would be of great assistance to the doctors of the town, and would nurse the mothers back to health and give the new arrival a fair start in life. In conclusion, Lady Londonderry proposed that the workers in the large works in the town should be asked to subscribe a small sum each, and that those works subscribing over £3 10s. should have the right to appoint a representative on the General Committee. By the method she had indicated, all the inhabitants of the town could obtain the benefits of skilled attendance in sickness.

The benefits of the fund of 5,000,000 dollars which Mr. Carnegie has created for persons in the United States and Canada dependent on those who have lost their lives in heroic efforts to save life, or of such persons themselves if injured but not killed, are applicable to doctors and nurses. Mr. Carnegie's letter in relation to the fund contains the following clause:—"No action (is) more heroic than that of doctors and nurses volunteering their services in the case of epidemics. . . . All these and similar cases are embraced."

The London School Nurses' Society, which has done good work in caring for the children in the poorer public elementary schools, is appealing for additional funds to enable it to carry out its work. The appeal is signed by Lord Windsor (President), Lord Stanley of Alderley (Chairman of the Executive Committee), and other influential persons. The

[previous page](#)

[next page](#)