

County Council as Inspector of Midwives for Nottinghamshire for the next twelve months. Dr. Handford, Medical Officer of Health for the county, reported that Miss Ross's work as Inspector of Midwives has been most satisfactory, and her assistance invaluable. There is, Dr. Handford states, every reason to believe that her efforts to impart information, at the same time that she carries out the necessary inspection required by the rules, have been greatly appreciated by the midwives she has visited.

The report received from Miss Amy Hughes, Superintendent of Affiliated County Associations, stated that the nursing work was uniformly good, and she was especially impressed with the high standard and good tone among the nurses, and the cordial relations existing between them and the County Superintendent, Miss Ross. Miss Ross reported during the year the nurses had paid 49,000 visits to 2,745 patients. The nurses trained by the County Council scholarships were most satisfactory, but it was evident that the number was insufficient, as there were six vacancies, and only three candidates trained.

The value of the work of trained nurses who are also midwives as inspectors of the latter is becoming increasingly evident, and the Nottinghamshire County Council is to be congratulated on having secured so able an officer as Miss Ross.

The Duchess of Beaufort and Lady Lucy Hicks-Beach are inviting support for the establishment of a Gloucestershire County Nursing Association, and a public meeting will be held in the Shire Hall, Gloucester, on February 1st, in furtherance of this object.

The County Association will recognise and endeavour to provide three grades of nurses:—

(i.) Fully-trained nurses to be employed whenever possible, especially for towns of 4,000 or more population, or where parishes can be efficiently grouped together and sufficient funds can be raised to support them, the cost of such nurses to local associations being generally from £70 to £100 a year.

(ii.) Village nurses for employment in thinly populated districts where it is impossible to collect enough money to support a fully trained nurse. These nurses would be paid £35 to £50 a year by the Local Association.

(iii.) Midwives trained to take the place of existing untrained persons acting as such.

It is also proposed to provide a fully trained Nurse-Superintendent for the county.

Miss Holliday, the Superintendent Nurse at the Plymouth Workhouse Infirmary, has replied to the letter of the Guardians, regretting that their complaint against her should have been formulated in

a general instead of a specific manner. Amongst other things, she says:—

"When appointed, over four years ago, I found the infirmary in an unsatisfactory condition as regards discipline and the care of the sick, and with a view to remedying this state of affairs I have asked the Guardians on no less than four occasions to draw up rules for the guidance of the nurses in the performance of their duties, but up to the present time have not been furnished with any. I have, therefore, to the best of my ability managed the infirmary with the assistance of the medical officer according to the regulations of the Local Government Board, and if there have been nurses who have resigned rather than conform to the regulations of the establishment, I do not consider any blame is attaching to me. I have also to remind the Guardians that they have before now caused inquiry to be made as to the resignation of nurses, when they found that satisfactory reasons had been given for so doing, and they expressed their confidence in my management."

She concludes:—

"I have, therefore, to state that not being conscious of having neglected my duty in any way I much regret that I am unable to comply with the resolution of the Board by sending in my resignation."

The letter has been referred to the Hospital Committee.

On the recommendation of the Medical Officer, Dr. Orchard, and the hospital Matron, Miss E. Maude Smith, the Chorlton Guardians have decided to appoint nine additional staff nurses at the workhouse hospital, inclusive of the staff nurses who will be required in the new pavilion.

Miss Morgan, Superintendent of the Cardiff Jubilee Nurses' Institute is inviting renewed help from the public with which to carry on the work. She states that, during 1904, the nurses of the Cardiff Jubilee Nurses' Institute have paid 62,334 visits, and have dealt with 1,858 cases. This is an increase of 278 patients and 7,753 visits over and above any other number registered in previous years, and means that the nursing staff must again be increased, if the sick poor are to be cared for.

Miss Balfour, of Whittinghame, has been presented by the members of the Prestonkirk Benefit Nursing Association with a beautifully-illuminated address on the occasion of the completed amalgamation with the East Lothian Association. The address expresses to Miss Balfour, as the hon. treasurer, the Society's heartfelt appreciation of the immense benefits she has conferred during the past six years on the respective parishes, and also on East Lothian at large, by the full development of her scheme.

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