

daughter of the late Mr. Ma<sup>t</sup>. Harris, M.P., who, by promptitude in attending a woman of the tramp class by the roadside, and having her conveyed to a disused house for confinement, saved her life and that of her child. The nurse placed her own cloak around the poor woman to protect her from the weather.

The effect on the funds of a public institution of a Matron who is a good domestic manager was plainly shown in the report presented at the Annual Meeting of the North Devon Infirmary at Barnstaple. The Committee had the satisfaction of presenting a balance-sheet with a balance of £83, and at the same time stated that under the head of provisions there was a saving of £267, which was largely if not entirely due to the economies of Miss Lilley, the Matron, with whose excellent work, energy, powers of organisation, and good management, which had greatly improved the status of the infirmary, they expressed the greatest satisfaction.

Wherever a well-trained district nurse is established she almost invariably gains for herself and her work immediate appreciation, although the funds for her maintenance are not always so readily forthcoming. We are glad therefore to note that in the case of the Harleston Nursing Association the first Annual Report and Balance-Sheet were both of a very satisfactory character.

The committee stated that they desired to acknowledge with much gratitude the hearty, generous, and unanimous support accorded to the work of the district nurse. This had lightened their labours during the past year, and encouraged them to hope for future success. Nurse Ferris, who received her training at the Temperance Hospital, London, and the Queen Victoria Jubilee Institute for District Nurses, was now happily settled in the parish, and had earned a welcome wherever she went. The doctors were pleased with the efficiency of her work, and her patients expressed their appreciation of her sympathy and kindness.

Miss Scully, the Matron of the Thetford Cottage Hospital, who is resigning the position on her marriage, has been presented by friends of the hospital and former patients with an illuminated address and a purse containing £20 in gold. The presentation took place at the hospital, Mr. F. R. Sutton, chairman, presiding.

The chairman, having read the address to Miss Scully, said he most sincerely wished her every joy and happiness in her future life. He was quite sure the address would always remind her of the long time during which she had so well filled her office as Matron, and the monetary gift would help to furnish her new home. He was sure she would always retain the gratitude of the many patients that had been under her care.

Miss Scully expressed her heartfelt thanks for all the kindness she had received since she first came to Thetford, which she assured those present would never be effaced from her memory. She wished also to express her thanks to every one of her patients and the other donors.

At a meeting last week of the Docks Committee, when Dr. Rolfe, medical officer in charge of Sir John Aird and Co.'s Dock Hospital at Avonmouth, presented a report, he paid a high tribute to the value of the services of the Matron of the hospital, Miss Blyth.

The Belfast Hospital for Diseases of the Skin is now possessed of a Finsen lamp of the newest type, which will doubtless be of much value in the treatment of the patients. A member of the nursing staff of the hospital—the Matron of which is Miss Lilly—has by the kindness of Dr. Rankin, one of the medical staff, been able to learn the management of the lamp under his own trained Finsen nurse. It is at present too early to say if the results attained are better than those obtained from the X-rays, but the medical staff are hopeful as to their success.

In the admirable speech recently delivered by Lady Helen Munro-Ferguson at Bangor, we note a few pertinent remarks which as a community we might well take to heart.

Lady Helen said:—"In Ireland they were only just beginning to realise how important it was to have a healthy population. Royal Commissions had been sitting to inquire into physical degeneracy, and societies had been started to promote physical training and a better knowledge of hygiene and domestic economy, and here in their very midst, already started and fully organised, they had an agency in their nurses, which above and beyond all others was able to combat the evil of physical degeneracy at its source, in the home and in the ignorance of the mother. They must remember, as regards physical culture, that they had fallen behind other nations. Abroad, owing to conscription, every man had to serve his country under arms, and anything that unfitted him for military service depreciated him as a citizen. Public attention was called to the disabilities of ill-health, and a standard of health was unconsciously set up.

"Besides this, in Germany, at any rate, the physical development of a child was almost a State affair. When the little German first went to his elementary school he was subjected to a very complete medical examination, in which the sight, and the nose, and the teeth were not forgotten, and any defect, or any delicacy which was likely to affect his future efficiency as a soldier, was pointed out to his attendant parents, who received advice as to

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