

on a large number of deserving women at a time when such assistance was so necessary, and earnestly appealed for additional support to enable the society to cope with the constantly increasing number of needy patients.

The Countess of Winchilsea has resigned the presidency of the Lincolnshire Nursing Association, and will be greatly missed. Countess Brownlow succeeds her. One could wish the nurses received more adequate training; from six to nine months cannot fit them to nurse the sick, even if they do live in cottages.

For many years we have spoken out about the unfairness of making nurses engaged in private nursing supply the funds for carrying on charitable work in our large and wealthy cities, and owing to our continued protest this injustice has been decreasing year by year.

We are all the more sorry to have therefore to draw the attention of the Committee of the Ipswich Nurses' Home to the most unsatisfactory financial report presented at the recent annual meeting presided over by the Ven. Archdeacon Lawrence.

To make a long story short, the Committee of this institution employ a staff of private nurses, four district nurses, two fully qualified midwives, and a staff of cottage helps. The three last classes are worked at a considerable loss as a charity. The work of the nineteen to twenty-two private nurses, which brought in £1,500, is reported to be "alone self-supporting and profitable, and without this profit the deficits in the other departments would be a very serious matter."

The accounts showed subscriptions to amount to £377 5s. 2d., receipts £1,956 13s. 1½d., and fees received for board and training of probationers and candidates for L.O.S., £288 9s. 4d. The total receipts amounted to £2,723 7s. 3½d. Liabilities included £924 12s. for salaries, &c., of the private nursing staff, and £520 8s. 6d. for the district and cottage nurses; establishment expenses came to £834 19s. 4d., and the full account showed a balance in hand of £396 4s. 1d.

So that in plain figures the private nurses contributed something well over £500 in support of the charitable side of the institutions work.

We note that the Chairman, in moving the adoption of the report, remarked that they "were indebted to the nurses for their excellent work and for the reputation they were building up for their institution," but he said nothing of the handsome sum of £500 which they had contributed to the nursing of the sick poor of Ipswich. We hope Archdeacon Lawrence will look into this matter. In our opinion it is highly discreditable that this charity should be provided for by poor working women, when the rich citizens and county magnates in the district owe such help to their poorer brethren, and no one could point out their duty to them more conscientiously than the Ven. Archdeacon. Private nursing institutions and district nursing institutions should be absolutely distinct so far as finance is concerned. One is a business, the other a charity.

There is a deficiency of £1,079 on the year's working of the Glasgow Sick Poor and Private Nursing Association. We are glad to note that at the annual meeting Sir Thomas M'Call Anderson spoke very warmly of the good work of the district nurses, and said it might be a good thing if the Association ceased to provide private nurses. Nowadays, he said, there were a number of nursing institutions in the city, which were rapidly becoming quite capable of meeting the demand for private nurses, and he had reason to suppose that a great many people refrained from subscribing to the Association on the ground that it was not a pure charity, and that they made money out of it.

The Committee of the Stirling Royal Infirmary have with regret accepted the resignations of several of the medical staff. They supported the House Surgeon in complaints against the Matron, whom he accused of obstructing him in the performance of his duties, and demanded her dismissal; but after due enquiry the Committee refused to sacrifice this lady, as she stoutly denied and presumably disproved the accusations.

It was stated at a recent meeting of the Montrose Hospital that the Matron worked fourteen hours a day, and a rise of salary from £40 to £50 was proposed. An animated discussion ensued, and finally it was voted to give this arduous worker an honorarium of £10 instead of a rise of salary. It is indeed a canny people.

The annual meeting in connection with Queen Victoria's Jubilee Institute for Nurses (Scottish

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