

At a recent meeting of the Banbridge Board of Guardians a communication was received from the Superintendent Nurse, Miss Johnston, and Nurses M'Roberts and Ervine, tendering their resignation, "for reasons well-known to the medical officer," and stating that they would leave the infirmary that day. The letter also stated that Nurse Boyd, who was at present on her holidays, would send in her resignation on her return. Mr. S. A. M'Connell was of opinion that the whole affair was a conspiracy. Since the time that Nurse Norris, at the request of the Guardians, agreed to accompany the ambulance when conveying a patient to the infirmary (after the other nurses had refused), she had been persecuted in the institution. A discussion ensued as to the cause of the resignations, and it was ultimately decided that the resignations be accepted, and that the Local Government Board be requested to hold a sworn inquiry into the matter at the earliest possible moment. It was also decided to send for the nurses, and ask them if they would agree to remain on temporary duty until the inquiry was held. This they agreed to do, but only on condition Nurse Norris did not resume duty in the infirmary. A suggestion, which was strongly opposed by several members, was made that as a means of settling the difficulty, Nurse Norris should be given a further extension of three weeks' leave of absence until after the inquiry was held and the matters in dispute fully decided. It was decided to send for Nurse Norris, and ask her if she would agree to accept the proposal. Nurse Norris, however, stated that she had returned and desired to resume duty on the following morning, and declined to accept a further extension of her leave of absence. It was then decided that Nurse Norris resume duty, and the master was instructed to obtain nurses to fill the vacancies created temporarily.

It is to be regretted that the Guardians should ask nurses who had thrown up their work at a day's notice to stay on. If the facts are as alleged they are very discreditable to the nurses concerned. This is not the only instance of a nurse being persecuted by her colleagues under similar circumstances, when she clearly performed merely a duty to humanity.

We learn that at the splendid new Rudolf Virchow Hospital in Berlin, the salary offered to the nurses is meagre in the extreme. Originally it was hoped that the training school at the Moabit Hospital which belongs to the City of Berlin might train the nursing staff for both hospitals, but as the supply has proved in-

sufficient, the larger part of the staff has had to be recruited from outside. The salary offered to fully-trained nurses for the first six months is 20 marks (about £1) a month. At the end of that time the nurses are required to pay the City of Berlin 200 marks, and to bind themselves to the service of the hospital for three years. If they leave before that time they forfeit their 200 marks. They then get 360 marks a year for the first year, rising to 540 marks (£27) when they have served the hospital for nine years. They also get indoor uniform, and a small pension after 10 years' service.

The arrangement is a very good one for the City of Berlin if it can induce any competent nurses to accept these terms; but from the nurses' point of view there seems to be nothing to attract them to this service. A probationer's pay for the first six months, and after that a most meagre salary, as well as the possibility of losing 200 marks. We think the City of Berlin will have to be more liberal in the matter of salaries if it wishes to obtain a good class of nurse.

The first general examination for membership of the Australasian Trained Nurses' Association has now been held, the centres being Brisbane, Fiji, and Sydney. The plan of examining all the States from Sydney has proved to be cumbersome, and it has been decided that at the next examination the States shall each conduct their own examination. The same papers will be set in each case, and the examinations will be held simultaneously. The report of the examiners as to the present examination was very satisfactory, the majority of the candidates showing a thorough knowledge of their work.

In a paper dealing with the Influence of An Alumnae Journal upon an Association, Miss Mary Bartlett Dixon, R.N., of the Johns Hopkins Hospital, Baltimore, speaks warmly of the Alumnae Journal of that Association as of vital importance to it. She says also:—

"We have seen some far-reaching results. Perhaps the most gratifying is a generous gift from Mr. Victor G. Bloede, of Catonsville, Md., the permanent support of a Visiting Nurse in connection with the Phipps Tuberculosis Dispensary of the Johns Hopkins Hospital. One of our nurses on private duty received a copy of her journal containing an article on the work of a visiting nurse among tuberculous patients. Mr. Bloede happened to pick up the magazine and, as he was interested in the subject, the article caught his eye, it appealed to him, and he offered to

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