

funds. The late addition to the Home, rendered necessary by the great increase of work falling on the nurses, has caused the present strain on the finances, while all possible economy is exercised in the management of the Home.

At the quarterly meeting of the committee, Miss Lumsden asked if any arrangement could be made to enable the Queen's Nurses to witness any of the functions connected with the prospective visit of Their Majesties to Aberdeen. Dr. Fraser and Mrs. Forbes Mitchell kindly agreed to give facilities for a view of the procession.

At an inquest held at the Monaghan Lunatic Asylum on a patient, Dr. Donaldson said that death was due to strangulation. Five of the nurses also gave evidence. Nurse Daly said when she saw the patient there was a small piece of cord or string round her neck, evidently a piece of linen. Nurse Clarke said that Nurse Swan had told her that she saw a piece of string round the deceased's neck. Nurse Swan recalled denied this, and swore that she saw no cord of any kind. The head nurse, Miss Shaw, stated that she saw no cord round the deceased's neck. The next morning, Miss Shaw, re-examined stated that she had that morning found a sheet on the deceased's bed out of which a strip had been torn. The piece torn out of the sheet could not be found. It would be possible for a nurse to conceal that piece on her own person. The coroner, in summing up, said he could place no reliance on the evidence of Nurses Swan and Crozier and the jury who returned a verdict of death by strangulation added a rider in which they said: "We strongly condemn the conduct of Nurses Swan and Crozier throughout this inquiry, and we place no reliance whatever on their evidence; and strongly recommend Nurse Daly to the consideration of the proper authorities for the assistance given us in finding out the cause of death of the patient Wilkinson." It is to be regretted that the conduct of any nurse should justify such a verdict.

At Banbridge, Co. Down, Ireland last week, Dr. E. C. Biggar, Local Government Board Inspector opened a sworn inquiry, in the board room of the Union Workhouse, into the circumstances under which the Superintendent Nurse of the Infirmary, Nurse Johnston, and the Assistant Nurses, Irwin, M' Roberts, and Boyd, resigned their positions on the nursing staff. It will be remembered that it was stated at the meeting of the Guardians at which the resignations were tendered that the Guardians decided

to ask the Local Government Board to hold an enquiry and at the same time invited the nurses to remain on temporary duty until the enquiry was held. They refused to do so if Nurse Norris, who has just returned from a holiday, resumed duty in the Infirmary. Nurse Norris declined to have her leave of absence extended, and it was asserted by Mr. S. A. M'Connell that since Nurse Norris, at the request of the Guardians, had accompanied an ambulance conveying a patient to the Infirmary she had been persecuted in the Institution.

At the inquiry, the Board of Guardians, Nurse Norris, and the nurses who resigned were represented by their respective solicitors. Many of the Guardians, including the Chairman (Mr. Lockhart), were present.

The announcement by Dr. Biggar that the inquiry would be held *in camera* was vehemently objected to by Mr. S. A. M'Connell, who said he absolutely refused to retire. The Press and the general public eventually withdrew, and Mr. M'Connell, having remarked that he strongly objected to a Star Chamber inquiry in the twentieth century, the inquiry proceeded *in camera*. We sympathise with the desire for a public inquiry; it is always, in our view, most satisfactory.

At a meeting held last October in Berlin of the delegates of the various societies for the training of Jewish nurses, it was decided to establish a Union of these bodies, the particular care of which would be to fix and supervise the study of nursing, to raise the status of the profession, and to provide for nurses during their illness and convalescence. It is now reported the income has exceeded the expenditure by 12,301 marks, so that this amount will be added to the pension fund.

The Society for Training Jewish Nurses states that the number of these nurses has increased to 67. Amongst the institutions in which the Sisters have worked are the Children's Hospital at Kissingen and the Jewish Convalescent Home at Leibnitz. The training of the students continues to be under the direction of Professor Dr. Israel and Professor Dr. Lazarus. At the hospital celebration five Sisters received the award of merit and six the Society's diploma, and 11 Sisters, who had qualified as Sisters, the leaving certificate. A donation of 150,000 marks was given by Frau Julie Gerson-Liebermann to the "Louis-Gerson Foundation," the interest of which sum is to be expended in medical aid for sick nurses,

[previous page](#)

[next page](#)