

follows: "As a memorial of her I have selected this institution as one most needful and deserving of help in its labour of love to the afflicted poor . . . the institution from the first had a warm corner in my heart and in that of my dear one too, and in the intervening years in times of severe sickness and weakness and pain, which both of us experienced, we felt the benefits of the loving care of scientific, educated, kindly, bright, and genial nurses, such as you have here ministering to the helpless and afflicted. It was therefore that I was providentially led to devote something of what by God's blessing I enjoy to strengthen the hands of those noble sympathetic men and women who have done so much to establish and carry on this gracious work."

The first annual meeting of the Ladies' Linen Guild of the Kidderminster Infirmary was held in the Board Room of the Hospital, on Friday, November 2nd, at 3 p.m. The President for the year, Lady Barbara Yeatman-Biggs, was in the chair. About thirty vice-presidents were present. The Hon. Treasurer, the Matron, presented her report, which showed in subscriptions and gifts of linen that a sum of £60 had been raised. Lady Barbara Yeatman-Biggs proposed Mrs. Tomkinson as President for the ensuing year. After the meeting there was a show of all the linen, and by the kindness of ten ladies a most delightful tea was provided. The whole Hospital was thrown open for inspection, a large number of associates of the Linen Guild from the town and country districts availed themselves of the opportunity of seeing the Hospital.

The curious kinks concerning nurses in the minds of Guardians often afford amusement at Board meetings. For instance, we cull the following from the *Liverpool Post*:

"A discussion of a rather amusing character occurred at yesterday's meeting of the Wirral Joint Hospital Board. The point to be decided was whether the nurses at Clatterbridge Hospital should be provided with a tennis court.

"One of the members was of opinion that if they provided a tennis court people would think the nurses had very little to do, but another replied that everyone knew nurses had some time to themselves.

"Mr. Turton remarked that possibly it would be thought the introduction of such a game would make things appear too happy for such an institution.

"Dr. Yeoman, on the ground of expense to the rate-payers, questioned the advisability of laying out a tennis court. He did not know how many members of the board possessed a tennis court at home. Possibly they would have to think next of providing a golf course?"

"Mr. M'Givering.—For the porters (laughter)?"

"Mr. Delamore said that they might find if they provided this tennis court their staff was too small to make use of it.

"Mr. M'Leavy pointed out that two could play lawn tennis.

"Mr. Warbrick having stated that there would be no expense beyond purchasing nets, racquets, and balls, because the board had some available ground which was suitable, it was decided to allow tennis to be played at the board's expense."

We think the Board will find it less expensive to provide healthy recreation for their nursing staff than to provide substitutes when they are dull and done up.

In the *Deaconess Advocate* Dr. Lucy Ryder Meyer gives the following note of an interview with Lady Henry Somerset, a Vice-President of the Society for the State Registration of Nurses:

"Have you any message for our American women?" I asked; "for girls especially? You know I have two hundred or so every year in the Bible Training-School."

"Give them my love and tell them not to think the time wasted that they spend in training. Do emphasise to them the value of training—it cannot be over estimated. Not only your missionaries, but your nurses. Do not send them out till they have their diplomas."

I told her of our hospital ways; that it is difficult for a woman to get work as a nurse anywhere unless she has her diploma.

"That's as it should be," said she, nodding her head. "I will have nothing to do, if I can help it, with any but thoroughly trained nurses."

Great improvements, says the *Lancet*, are being made in the Calcutta hospitals. The quarters for Sisters, nurses and native nurses at the Eden and Medical College Hospitals are now completed and will provide every nursing comfort. Electric lights and fans are installed. Altogether ninety-six European and Eurasian (principally Eurasian) nurses are to be provided for. The building will be formally opened by Lady Minto this month. The new surgical ward at the Medical College Hospital will also be opened in a short time. It is expected to be the best of its kind in India. The operating theatre and its appliances will be of the latest and best description. A new lecture room is to be erected also. The native wards of the hospital are to be furnished with electric fans, the cost of which will be met from the donation given to the institution by the Maharaja Darbhanga through H.R.H. the Prince of Wales during his visit to Calcutta.

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