

whom inspected the hospital, and expressed great pleasure at the improvements which have been achieved. During the past year a new and conveniently arranged Casualty Department has been added in place of the quite inadequate small room in which all the casualty cases at this busy hospital were previously received. The new Children's Wards (the Hull wards) are also very bright and pretty, and the small folk seemed wonderfully happy and well cared for. They are evidently great pets of the Matron, Miss Nevile, in whom the Committee have so capable an executive officer. The floor of the spacious and well lighted theatre has been relaid with a material called "stonwood," which is put down somewhat in the same way as asphalt.

What is now sorely needed is a new Nurses' Home, the present accommodation for the nurses is quite unworthy of a hospital of the standing of the West London.

A useful society connected with the Hospital is the Ladies' Association, which was founded two years ago, and will hold its annual meeting on May 7th. In one year it sent 200 patients to Convalescent Homes, and now has four permanent beds, two at Rushington, one at St. Andrew's Home, Folkestone, and one at All Saints' Home, Eastbourne. This adds to the capacity of the hospital, as patients with open wounds can be sent to these homes long before they could otherwise be discharged. The Association also provides most of the nightdresses and bed jackets worn in the hospital, the children's things, and abdominal belts, it also manages the library, which contains many interesting books, which are changed in the wards twice a week, and are much appreciated by the patients.

The General Committee of the Coventry and Warwickshire Hospital received the resignation of the Matron, Miss Hoadley (appointed Matron of the London Homoeopathic Hospital) with very sincere regret, and recommended that a special letter of thanks should be sent to her, "for the very efficient and economical manner in which she had administered the affairs of the hospital during the two years she had been Matron." Coventry's loss is London's gain.

The new Home for Queen's Nurses at 71, Blatchington Road, Hove, which has been presented by Mr. Arthur Wagg to the Brighton, Hove, and Preston Association, was opened recently by Mr. B. Y. Bevan, and a cordial vote of thanks was passed to Mr. Wagg for his kind gift.

The Matron (Miss Ives) and a nurse (Miss Collins) at the Brentford Isolation Hospital have resigned their positions after being completely exonerated by the District Council from a charge of want of sympathy with the wife of Councillor Pearce, whose child died from diphtheria in the Hospital. It was also alleged that Miss Ives was absent too long from the bedside of the child.

At the Matron's request, a searching investigation took place, resulting in a unanimous resolution of confidence on the part of the Council (including Councillor Pearce) in Miss Ives, which exonerated her from all blame. She, however, immediately tendered her resignation, saying that after the Council's lack of loyalty she could no longer continue in its service.

The fact is that in small isolation hospitals the nursing staff is often very inadequate, and the impossibility of fulfilling all the duties required of them is often the root of complaint against nurses.

The Annual Dance of the Glasgow Hospital Nurses, which took place recently, in the St. Andrew's Halls, was attended by a large and representative Assembly. Amongst those present were Sir Samuel and Lady Chisholm (who are patrons of the function), Dr. Thom and Miss Melrose, of the Royal Infirmary; Miss Smith, Matron of the Western Infirmary; Miss Aitken, Belvidere; Miss Landles, Ruchill; Miss Wright, Stobhill; Miss Mackay, Ayr Hospital; Miss Morton, Samaritan Hospital; and Miss Scott, of the Shaw Home. The medical staffs of all the infirmaries and hospitals were fully represented, and many nurses also thoroughly enjoyed this pleasant function.

Nurse Roughton, writing in *Nurses' Near and Far*, gives an interesting account of some of the native methods of treating disease at Dera Ghazi Khan. She says:

"Some of the native treatment is very funny. One boy came in with a huge abscess on his neck, which had to be opened. Of course I wanted to clean it up a little first, and was going to remove his 'pagri,' but his father objected, and mumbled something about 'Roti,' which means bread. I wondered what bread had got to do with it, but understood later when I had succeeded in removing the 'pagri,' and saw a pancake nicely fitted on to the boy's head; it had been put on hot to relieve the pain (a good poultice). Another day I saw an in-patient lying in bed with a big jar of cold water on his chest. I asked what he was doing. He said, 'My chest is very hot, and I want to make it cold.'"

[previous page](#)

[next page](#)