

At the London Hospital, there are vacancies every seven weeks for twenty-eight new probationers. It is not surprising, therefore, that there is some difficulty in obtaining suitable candidates. The work of sifting applications and applicants must alone be enormous. Probationers are bound for four years, but of this only two years is necessarily spent in the hospital. The day will, no doubt, come when the London conforms to the generally accepted term of training at the present day, and gives three years' full training in the wards.

From many sides there is a complaint that the number of applicants for probationers' posts are decreasing, and a dearth of probationers is threatened. This condition is, we believe, wrongly ascribed to the greater number of openings for women at the present time. Although this may have some influence on the situation, the main cause why women are seeking other spheres of usefulness is that as nurses they have at present no guarantee of a thorough nursing education in return for the years they devote to learning their work, and when they have done so their skilled work is on exactly the same footing in the open market as that of a woman who has been sent away from her training school as incompetent after a few months. Until we have State Registration of Trained Nurses, the popularity of nursing as a profession for women will continue to decline.

The Nurses' Union, a Society organised in connection with the Young Women's Christian Association, is celebrating its twenty-first birthday on June 3rd, at Morley Hall, 26, George Street, Hanover Square, W. On Saturday, June 1st, there will be a special service for the members and their friends at Holy Trinity, Marylebone, at 6.30.

The Scottish Branch of the Q.V.J.I. has decided to set apart the furnished residence of the late Miss Guthrie Wright at Colinton, bequeathed to it by her with the residue of her estate, as a Home of Rest for Queen's Nurses.

At the Annual Meeting in connection with King Edward VII.'s Coronation National Fund for Nurses in Ireland, held last week, in the Royal College of Surgeons, St. Stephen's Green, Dublin, Dr. H. R. Swanzy, President of the Royal College of Surgeons, presided.

The third Annual Report, presented by Sir Andrew Reed, showed that satisfactory progress had been made in the last twelve months. Two members only had applied for

help, and each had received a grant. During the past year the Society sustained a loss by the resignation of Miss M. E. MacDonnell, who filled the office of secretary for over three years with zeal and high efficiency. She left in March last to take up the appointment of Lady Superintendent of the hospital at Neyoor, Travancore (India), to which is attached a settlement of lepers, who will be under her care. She had been succeeded by Miss Ellen Cherry.

The Council for the ensuing year consists of Miss Mary Blunt, Miss MacDonnell, R.R.C.; Miss Kelly, Sir Francis R. Cruise, the Right Hon. Sir Frederick Falkiner, P.C.; Mr. Charles Martin, D.L.; Mr. T. O'Farrell, J.P.; Sir Lambert Ormsby, M.D.; Sir Wm. Thomson, C.B., M.D., and Mr. Fane Vernon, D.L., and the following direct representatives of the nurses:—Miss Shuter (City of Dublin Hospital), Miss Ramsden (Rotunda Hospital), Miss Lamont (Queen Victoria's Jubilee Institute), Miss Powell (Charlemont Hospital), and Miss Butler (Mercer's Hospital).

This institution is a Benevolent Society, founded for the benefit of the nurses of the sick in Ireland, and is similar in principle to the many benevolent societies established by the members of the learned professions and of many trades and callings, for relieving any of their body needing help.

The report points out that the great majority of Irish Nurses cannot afford to join the Royal National Pension Fund for Nurses.

Fräulein Wilhelmine Harkort, who died at Cassel on the 20th of December, 1906, has left a legacy of 8,000 marks for the relief fund of the German Nurses' Association. The deceased belonged to the Westphalian family of Harkort, well-known through their large iron-works, and it is a special joy, therefore, that the first large gift for the fund comes from the "red soil," where the first great field of work in Dortmund is developing. But there is no relation between these two facts, as the legacy is the result of personal relations between the Harkorts and the President of the Association.

Dr. Llewellys F. Barber, in an address given to the nurses of the Johns Hopkins Alumnæ on the Treatment of Nervous Diseases, discussed the kind of nurse needed for the successful treatment of patients suffering from functional nervous diseases. He said: For mild cases, any nurse of the better sort with good training and ordinary qualifications will usually do well. But for the more

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