

and Mrs. Hook the annual meeting in furtherance of the work of the South London District Nursing Association (Taybridge Road, S.W.) was held in the spacious drawing room of the "Kingston" House, South Side, Clapham Common, on Saturday last, and called together quite a large and influential gathering.

The Bishop presided, and, in speaking in warmly appreciative terms of nurses and their work he said: Only the other day a touching scene was enacted at the Church of the Ascension, in connection with the funeral of one of the nurses, who had done splendid service. That some half-dozen honest labouring men should have rushed from their work to carry the coffin to the church in their zeal and eagerness to do honour to one whom they had learned to respect, to value, and to love, was in itself an excellent testimony to the truly Christ-like character of the Association's nurses in South London.

The Rev. P. D. Hedges proposed the following resolution: "That in the opinion of this meeting the work of the South London District Nursing Association deserves the utmost support of all those interested in the welfare of the poor of South London." A witty and amusing seconder was found in Mr. G. K. Chesterton, who said almost all of men's work consisted of popping in their heads somewhere, declaring a thing with great authority and decision, and then rushing away again. To the other sex, however, belonged the martyrdom combined with monotony, of not only doing their work well, but of doing it all the time, and trying to find out whether the advice given by the man could be worked out or not; generally it could not.

The nurses of the Shoreditch and Bethnal Green District Nursing Association are doing most excellent work in some of the poorest districts of the Metropolis. For that reason, though their services are keenly appreciated, it is no easy matter to raise the necessary funds. We hope that the concert to be held at the Shoreditch Town Hall on May 7th will be a great success. Tickets are obtainable from the Superintendent, Miss Böge, 80, Nicholls Square, N.E. Reserved seats, 4s. and 2s. 6d. Admission 1s. and 6d.

The Convalescent Relief Work in connection with Bellevue Hospital, New York, has proved so valuable an adjunct to its work in the hands of a graduate nurse, Miss M. E. Wadley, that it now has its permanent headquarters in an

office provided in the Hospital, and an Assistant has been appointed to help Miss Wadley.

The work, to which we have already drawn attention, was begun in July, 1906, as the result of the attention called by Dr. S. T. Armstrong, General Medical Superintendent of Bellevue and the Allied Hospitals, to cases of patients whose recovery was retarded either by anxiety concerning home conditions, or by mental depression because of their own outlook. He urged systematic investigation and relief to supplement the medical and surgical treatment given, and advised that such work be under the charge of a Graduate Nurse because of her familiarity both with hospital discipline and the conditions of the patient. The Relief Nurses visit in the wards, to ascertain as far as possible the needs of each patient, and act as the connecting link between those who need assistance and charitable associations and persons caring for the indigent poor.

An interesting feature of the work is, the report states, the assistance given to country boys who have drifted to the City, and who when discharged are helped to find positions and are often loaned money to provide the necessities of life until their first pay day. Several men have been redeemed from the drink habit through the aid of institutions for the treatment of alcoholism, and have thus been enabled to re-enter the ranks of self-supporting citizens. The comment on this is "those of us whose lives are spent within the range of normal existence can little fathom how such patients as well as those in the prison wards, and others who have attempted suicide, are strengthened by the friendly hand clasp that gives assurance and help, or the renewal of hope that comes with the knowledge that someone cares and has faith in them and their future."

It is felt that the history of these eighteen months has proved conclusively, not only the need of such relief to the individual, but its preventive value to City and State, in restoring to the wage earning ranks many who would otherwise become dependent charges on the municipal or state institutions.

The following story exemplifies the machine-made nurse, as against the nurse systematically and intelligently trained, told by a Matron in an American journal: "I recall a experience of my own while on a case years ago. A famous surgeon sent his nurse to prepare everything for an operation; after boiling the

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