

## Legal Matters.

### NURSES' CONTRACTS WITH NURSING HOMES.

At the Portsmouth County Court last week Miss Tillett, Principal of the Nightingale Nurses' Home, Southsea, asked, through her solicitor, for a stay of execution, pending an appeal, against the judgment recently reported in these columns, by which Miss Tillett was refused an injunction against Nurse Headley to restrain her from carrying on nursing within a radius of twenty miles of the Home for a period of three years.

Mr. King asked for a stay for one week to enable the plaintiff to get counsel's opinion on the judgment of His Honour, Judge Gye.

His Honour thought that could only be done on payment of the costs into court.

Mr. Bechervaise, for the defendant, opposed the application, as the defendant was entirely without means, except for her salary and the fees she earned as a nurse, whilst the plaintiff was owner of probably the largest Nursing Home in Southsea. If the defendant were unable to get her costs she would be entirely unable to be represented on appeal. Fourteen days had elapsed since judgment was given for the defendant, and if the costs were not paid into Court by four o'clock that afternoon they would be entitled to execution. Fourteen days was long enough to get counsel's opinion, and further delay was extremely hard on the defendant.

Mr. King urged that because the defendant had no money that was no reason to put her into a position to fight the plaintiff with hers.

His Honour said it would not be the plaintiff's money. She had won her case, and was entitled to her costs. He did not think the case was one for indulgence. The plaintiff was a person of means, and would suffer no hardship.

## Distribution of Prizes.

### AT BRADFORD ROYAL INFIRMARY.

The prizes won by the nurses of the Bradford Royal Infirmary in the examinations following the annual course of lectures were distributed on Friday, 20th inst., by the Lady Mayoress (Mrs. James Hill). The Lord Mayor presided, and an influential company assembled to take part in the ceremony.

Dr. Phillips, in reporting upon the examinations, said that upon the whole the nurses had acquitted themselves excellently. The winner of the gold medal was Nurse Alice Muriel Clift, with the highly creditable average of 93.5 per cent. of marks. None of the juniors obtained less than 53 per cent., and the silver medal went to Nurse Ethel Dowson, whose average was 77.7 per cent.—The Matron (Miss Hodges) reported that the book prize for the examination in bandaging had been won by Nurse Walker, who obtained 77 marks out of 100.

Votes of thanks were passed to the Lord and Lady Mayoress, and the lecturers and examiners.

### AT THE GENERAL HOSPITAL, BRISTOL.

A large gathering of the members of the Committee of the General Hospital, Bristol, and friends of the institution, took place there last week for the distribution of prizes and certificates by Mr. J. Storrs Fry, who said that the good work of the nurses was indisputable and invaluable. They owed a big debt of gratitude to the nurses and those in charge of various departments of the institution.

The Chairman of the Committee, Mr. H. Baker, heartily congratulated the prize-winners, and expressed his good wishes also for the future success of those who had not won prizes:—

The prizes and certificates were distributed by Mr. Storrs Fry as follows:—

Best efficiency after three years' training.—1, Miss Bessie Atkinson (gold medal); 2, Miss Frances Gillett (silver medal); 3, Misses Emily Badcock, Penelope Pritchard, and Caroline Parish (certificates of merit).

Medical nurse (second year).—1, Miss Edith Golding; 2, Miss Mabel Holborow.

Surgical nurse.—1, Misses Margaret Page and Mabel Holborow; 2, Miss Grace Jenkins.

Efficiency for one year, anatomy, and physiology.—1, Miss Maud Parsons (anatomy and physiology); 2, Misses Adele Dodd (anatomy) and Jane Revington (physiology).

### RESIGNATION.

For the last eight years the position of Matron at the Nursing Home in Birkenhead Avenue, Kingston-on-Thames, has been filled with much ability by Miss Sawyer, whose geniality has won for her a large circle of friends. To the great regret of the committee Miss Sawyer has intimated that she must relinquish the post at the end of the present year. She will be succeeded by Miss Milne, who will enter upon her duties early in the new year. Miss Milne comes to Kingston with very high credentials, having filled the position of Assistant Superintendent of Queen's nurses in several districts of London.

### THE PASSING BELL.

All who have worked at the London Fever Hospital during the last quarter of a century will regret to hear of the death of Sister Martha Parnham, which occurred on Sunday, November 22nd, at her home in Upton, near Southwell.

Sister Parnham entered the service of the London Fever Hospital as nurse on the 1st April, 1880. In 1894 she was appointed Home Sister, which post she retained till her death.

She was one of the earliest members of the R.B.N.A., and early in this year was appointed an Honorary Serving Sister of the Order of St. John of Jerusalem, in recognition of her long and faithful service.

Whilst taking her holiday in October last she had a very severe heart attack, the precursor of her last illness. This prevented her from returning to duty as she had hoped to do, with a view to retiring shortly on a well-earned pension.

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