

Thomas Barlow, Miss Delmahoy, from "University"; Sir Edwin Cooper Perry, the Superintendent at Guy's, married a "London" Sister, Miss McManus; Mr. Howard Marsh, of Bart's, married Miss Dalrymple Hay (Sister Abernethy); Mr. Grimdale, of "George's," a Sister, Miss Todd; Mr. Openshaw, of the "London," also married a Sister; and Mr. Makins, a Sister at St. Thomas's. Indeed, the list could be extended *ad infinitum*.

We once received a letter of inquiry from a lady interested in nursing in France, asking for a complete list of such hospital marriages, to convince the medical faculty in France that nursing in England was a profession for educated women. To judge from the rapid educational progress of nursing in France, and the keen interest taken in it from a scientific standpoint by French savants, it would appear that they are rapidly becoming convinced of the immense possibilities of nursing in the treatment of disease, and the benefit of refined women in the wards.

In two districts, for a period of three months, an interesting experiment is to be tried by the London County Council Education Committee in the treatment of children suffering from suppurating ears. There is a large number of cases of this kind among children attending the elementary schools, and neglect frequently leads to loss of hearing and in some instances even to loss of life. This neglect is largely due to the fact that a successful result in all ordinary cases depends more upon the nurse than upon the doctor, the necessary syringing requiring much time, care, and patience. There is little prospect of the children getting the proper treatment, in many instances, from their parents. The amount of time involved makes it impossible for the hospitals to do the work. So for two districts arrangements are to be made with the Queen Victoria's Jubilee Institute for Nurses. The cost will be £7 10s. a month for each district. Children found by the school doctor to be suffering from suppurating ears will be given a card informing the parent of the dangerous state of the child and requesting the parent to consult his own doctor or take the child to a hospital. The parent will be told that the nurse will visit, and that if his own or the hospital doctor has signed the card the nurse will attend twice daily to syringe the child's ears.

During the discussion which took place at the last meeting of the Metropolitan Asylums Board respecting the qualifications of the

lady appointed as Matron of the Children's Infirmary, Carshalton, several important points were raised. The Children's Committee, who interviewed nine selected candidates, recommended the appointment of a Miss N. T. Bell, who, as we reported last week, had had a long period of training and service in children's work at the Evelina Hospital, S.E., and had held the position of Matron at the Birmingham and Midland Free Hospital for Sick Children, but had only had one year's general training as a Lady Pupil at Guy's Hospital.

Miss Bell, who attended before the Board, said that she felt quite capable of carrying out the duties of the office, but on her withdrawal Mr. Dennis moved that the recommendation should be referred back to the Committee, pointing out that the Board demanded of the Charge Nurses in its employ a certificate of three years' training from a general hospital, or a recognised training school for nurses, or from a Poor Law Infirmary in which systematic instruction is given for three years, followed by a subsequent examination by an independent authority. Miss Bell did not, he said, comply with this regulation. Therefore, either their regulations were unduly strict or the appointment ought not to be made. Professor Smith, who supported the amendment, said the appointment was one of the most important which could be made, and if it were decided that probationers should be taken the Matron would be responsible for their training, therefore there should be no question as to her qualifications.

Other members of the Board having supported both the recommendation of the Committee and the amendment, the latter, on a show of hands, was declared lost, and the appointment agreed to.

The policy of upholding standards is one with which we are in cordial agreement, but it must be pointed out that at present no definite standard exists by which the qualification of a nurse can be judged. One may hold a three years' certificate from a hospital, where the training is very inferior, and another without such a certificate may have had much better training and experience. Public bodies which fix certain standards work therefore considerably in the dark, and every day the urgent need of a standard of nursing education defined by a central authority appointed by the State becomes increasingly evident.

The fourth annual report of the Jewish Hospital at Manchester expresses the satisfaction of the Board of Management at the great de-

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