

The Governors of the Huddersfield Infirmary in their Annual Report record their "warm appreciation of the loyal and devoted services given by Miss Barry (Matron), and her competent staff of nurses."

The Kent County Nursing Association is appealing to the clergy to recommend women suitable to be trained as village nurses or midwives for work in the county. With assistance from the County Council sixteen such women can be trained annually, but the Association finds it very difficult to find them. The reason may be sought in the salary which these women are required to bind themselves to accept for three years, viz., £40 a year with uniform. The labourer is worthy of his hire, a fact which seems to penetrate but slowly to the inner consciousness of philanthropic employers.

Provisional Councils have been formed both in North and South Wales with the object of training Welsh women as village nurses and midwives for the rural districts in connection with Queen Victoria's Jubilee Institute. Mr. J. E. Graves, Lord Lieutenant of Carnarvonshire, presided recently at Chester at a meeting of the Provisional Committee of the Northern Association, and the Lord Mayor of Cardiff over a similar gathering in that city in connection with the South Wales Association. Both meetings were addressed by Miss Amy Hughes, General Superintendent, Q.V.J.I. It was mentioned at the Chester meeting that there are no Welsh words in general use for nurse and nursing, and the members of the Council were asked to consult authorities on the Welsh language with a view to making good the deficiency.

At the request of the Countess of Dudley, Lieutenant Shackleton has promised to give an address in Dublin in November on behalf of the Lady Dudley Nursing Scheme.

Those who are accustomed only to the system and order of long established training schools for nurses at home do not always realise the difficulties with which hospitals further afield are confronted. At the Johannesburg Hospital, South Africa, the nursing, as lately as 1896, was in the hands of nuns, but towards the end of that year 30 trained nurses were brought out from England. They, however, were dissatisfied with the conditions under which they had to work, and the majority left, breaking their contract. The war in 1899 again affected the hospital, and the

nurses were disbanded, and the nursing disorganised.

In 1903 the present Matron, Mrs. Magill, at that time Matron of the Royal Infirmary, Bradford, was appointed, and undertook the work of reorganisation once more. One of the difficulties which confronts the nurses in South Africa is the lack of reciprocity, arising, we understand, from differing standards, in the different Colonies. Thus a nurse who has passed the Medical Council's examination in Cape Colony or Natal is not eligible for registration in the Transvaal, which is certainly a hardship. Uniformity of standards and then reciprocity of recognition, with representation when nursing interests are under consideration of the Governing Body, are what nurses in South Africa should aim at.

Miss Georgiana J. Sanders, who received her professional training in this country, and afterwards went to America, where she was appointed Superintendent of Nurses at the Polyclinic Hospital, Philadelphia, contributes to the *American Journal of Nursing* some interesting reminiscences of the old time ward maid, which will be recognised by those who trained in the eighties as "to the life."

Miss Sanders asks "Who trained us in those far-off days in the way we had to go? The remote lady in the office in whose presence we stood and suspended labour? The busy head nurse, tied up, it seemed, everlastingly in the doctors? Our seniors who saw to it in self-preservation that we soon knew when to fetch and how to carry, and various practical parts of our work that otherwise devolved on them? Or the doctors who showed us mysterious spots through the microscope, and supplied us, unasked, with strikingly irrelevant information.

"They must all certainly have their uses. But the authority we feared, before whose ready tongue and contemptuous glance the stoutest quailed, she who taught by experience, expected less than nothing from us, and yet exacted standards it was hopeless to attain, this authority reigned in scornful independence in the ward kitchen, emerging punctually as clockwork twice a day to sweep the wards and clean the lavatories."

Mrs. Dita H. Kinney, Superintendent of the Army Nurse Corps in the United States of America, has resigned the appointment, and proposes to visit California.

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