

mending the parents to have their daughters' hair cut short. This would have proclaimed to the Willesden world unpalatable truths, so the mothers did not respond to the request. It was therefore decided that the next scene of action should be the cleansing station of the Willesden Urban District Council at the Isolation Hospital. Now it was the School Nurse's turn to step into the arena, so she drove up to the School in an ambulance van to inspect the girls on whose parents notices had been served. Her coming spread through the neighbourhood like wildfire, and indignant parents poured into the playground and "dared" the "nuss" to remove a single child. Oil was poured upon the troubled waters by the Headmistress of the Girls' School, who said that only children of parents who were unable to satisfy the requirements of the authorities would be taken to the cleansing station, and as in spite of "lip" every notice had been observed, the crowd accepted the explanation and melted away. Like Tzars and Prime Ministers it is shown that school nurses may upon occasions need the support of mounted police!

According to report, differences have existed at the Caird Home for Nurses at Dundee for some time, in connection with the superintendence of the institution, and frequent changes have taken place in the staff of nurses. At a recent meeting of Directors it was decided that the Matron, Miss Mackay, should be requested to send in her resignation at once. As this lady was absent on her holidays, it would, in our opinion, have been more just to have held the inquiry when she could have presented her defence in person.

The new session for the training of maternity nurses at the General Nursing Association, Glasgow, was opened last week. The lecturer, Dr. Angus Macphee, referred to the origin of the Association and the nature of the work done by it. The Association, he said, was founded primarily to aid in removing the main cause of infant mortality so prevalent in several of the districts of the city. This excessive death-rate among infants was undoubtedly due in large measure to the want of proper attendance at maternity cases among the middle and working classes. The great aim of the Association was to train nurses who would attend such cases at charges commensurate with the patient's means. There was every reason to be pleased with the results of the work, and it had been found that in the district (Cowcaddens) in which the nurses were principally en-

gaged much good had resulted from their services.

In sending her annual subscription to the Society for State Registration of Trained Nurses, Miss F. M. Jones, Matron of the Institute for Trained Nurses at Auckland, New Zealand, writes:—"We are disappointed here that matters are moving so slowly in England. I earnestly hope that Registration will soon be an accomplished fact."

That this reform will be accomplished before long there is no doubt, but no one working in the Colonies can grasp for a moment the determined opposition upon the part of the average philanthropic employer to any degree of social or economic independence for working women in England. Professor Thompson at Toronto voiced the innate intolerance of millions of men in his horrible speech. The truth is that the work of voteless women is the only cheap and unorganised labour in the skilled labour market, and here it "shall remain cheap" as long as men have the power to keep it so. For centuries, moreover, charitable and religious institutions have been the most ruthless offenders where the overwork of women is concerned.

The following letter "from a Nurse" which appears in this month's *Asylum News* supports our contention:—

"I am writing with respect to the restriction that is being put on nurses in some asylums. There are at least three asylums in this county where the nurses are on duty six days out of seven for 14 hours every day, making a total of 84 hours a week. They are only allowed one evening a week from 8 p.m. till 10 p.m. The domestic staff are allowed every evening, and a day a week if they need a change. Surely the nurses need one after doing 14 hours' duty, for they have the noise and worry of the patients, and often have to struggle and hang on to a padded room door to prevent a maniacal patient from getting out or doing harm to herself or anyone she may come in contact with, as seclusion is strictly prohibited. The attendants have just the same hours on duty as the nurses, but they are allowed every evening, and no one tries to stop their time, because they would not put up with it. Then why should the nurses? Only a short time ago a paragraph appeared in the *Asylum News* referring to female lunatics being far worse to see after than male; I know that to be a fact, for I for one have had much experience in a male lunatic ward. Therefore, I think if anything nurses should be allowed more time off duty than attendants, or else shorter hours, for I consider the hours are too long from 6 a.m. till 8 p.m. As I am a member of the A. W. A. I trust you will consider these few facts I have stated, and

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