

to be of use to those training to work in French hospitals. The orderly and systematic way in which ward work is carried out in England will in time be adopted in France. Meanwhile we have something to learn from our scientific neighbours. Theory without practical skill is not ideal, neither is practical routine devoid of theoretical knowledge. The one may breed a pedant, but the latter inevitably produces mechanical and soulless work. If we were thirty years younger we should pack up our trunks, rest by the way in Paris as a pupil at the Nursing School of the Salpêtrière, and complete its theoretical course, take a domestic course under "Madame Ecônome," return to London for a spell of practical nursing and ward discipline, and then we should flit across to New York City and avail ourselves of the new post graduate courses of training at Teachers' College, under Miss Nutting, to qualify as Hospital Superintendent and for Social Service.

How wonderful that nurses can now secure such teaching. Some day it will all be co-ordinated in every country and we shall not have to travel into foreign lands to pick it up in scraps. Meanwhile let us give willingly to others the knowledge we possess, to lessen the suffering in the world.

The sick berth staff of the Royal Navy have formed a club to promote their interests. These are picked men, and the following remuneration which they receive they consider should be increased:—On entry they are paid 1s. 4d. a day; after six months' training (and if competent), 1s. 8d.; after three years' service, and having passed for second S.B.S., 2s; when a vacancy occurs they are rated 2nd S.B.S. and paid 2s. 3d.; and after three years' service in this rating, 2s. 6d. On passing the examination for the rating, and when a vacancy occurs, they are rated sick berth steward at 2s. 10d. a day, with increments of 4d. a day after three, six, and nine years' service. After fourteen years' service they may be rated in vacancies chief sick berth steward at 4s. 2d. a day, with one increment of 4d. a day after two years' service as such.

We are glad to note that Miss Copeland, the Superintendent Nurse, has pointed out to the Rochdale Board of Guardians the insufficiency and inexperience of the nursing staff in the old hospitals for men and women. There are at present at the old hospital for males 120 beds, with a staff of one Charge Nurse, who only completed her training four months ago; one probationer, entering her third year of training; and one probationer, who recently entered for

training. This old hospital is the principal receiving hospital for male patients, and in its wards all classes of cases are treated, acute, chronic, and helpless. Again, at the old hospital for females there are 92 beds with a staff of one charge nurse, who has just completed her training; one probationer, entering her third year of training; and a three months' probationer. The Charge Nurse at the old hospital for females has also to supervise the annexe, where there are 30 old men and 33 infants.

The shortage of the nursing staff as a whole does not allow probationers the time off duty they ought to have for rest and study.

We are glad to note that the nursing staff is to be increased by the appointment of a Charge Nurse and a probationer. It appears that all over the country a system of nurse sweating in workhouse infirmary wards is permitted under the Local Government Board. Apparently a Labour Minister at the helm has paid but scant consideration to women workers, for whom his Department is responsible!

Wales is somewhat behind in nursing matters, and much discussion has of late taken place on the condition of the Bangor Infirmary attached to the Workhouse. The right thing to do would be to demolish it right away and build an infirmary suitable for the efficient care of sick people. But this, we fear, is not the intention of the Bangor and Beaumaris Board of Guardians. The difficulty of obtaining an efficient staff of nurses is almost insurmountable. Can we wonder that such should be the case when we realise that there is no lavatory accommodation for the nurses, who have to use that provided for the patients, some of whom suffer from filthy and highly infectious diseases. This disgusting condition of affairs cannot be tolerated by trained nurses who grasp the horrible danger to health.

At a special meeting of King Edward's Coronation Fund for Nurses held in Dublin last week the following resolution was passed:—

"The Council of King Edward's Coronation Fund for Nurses, having met to-day for the first time since the announcement of the lamented death of Sir William Thomson, C.B., desire to place on record their deep regret at the great loss the Society has sustained by his demise. He was one of the original founders of this Society, which was established for the benefit of nurses of the sick in Ireland, and was one of the leading members of its Council. He ever took a deep interest in the Society, and was a true friend to the Institution. The Council desire respectfully to convey to his widow, Lady Thomson, and his family, their deep sympathy for them in their great affliction.

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