

The current issue of the *St. John's League News* contains many interesting items. Its Financial Report shows a balance on the right side, besides a deposit in the Post Office Savings Bank. The articles include one on the establishment of cordial relations between members of existing Leagues, an interesting account of a trip to Belgium, and extracts from letters from Paris during the floods, and from Korea.

The *Kingston Infirmary Nurses' League Journal* contains an admirable portrait of the President, Miss A. Smith, and much interesting matter. The members of the League sent a message of condolence to her Majesty the Queen Mother, and received the following reply:—

"Queen Alexandra deeply appreciates your sincere sympathy."

There is an interesting letter from Anacortes and about Babies Homes in India.

The Ladies' Linen League is admirably organised at Northampton General Hospital, and on the leaflet issued, the sizes and prices of everything required is accurately stated, and patterns are provided so that everything should be made as required and in the most practical form.

Miss Mabel Annie Slater, a professional nurse, has sustained her claim in a case heard by Sir William Selfe, under the Workmen's Compensation Act last week in the West London County Court, when the Community of the Sisters of St. John the Divine sought to have an award made under the Act reduced. Miss Slater had been engaged by the Sisters, and was nursing a patient early in 1908, when she received a prick in the left hand from a safety pin, with the result that blood poisoning supervened, and after two operations the thumb and two fingers were left useless. The Judge said the injury must seriously interfere with the work of a professional nurse. He saw no reason why the amount of the award should be reduced, and the application was refused with costs.

The terrible death of an infant at the Monsall Fever Hospital, Manchester, by hanging, on the facts as sworn in evidence are almost inconceivable. It is stated that the child was seventeen months old, and isolated as a scarlet fever patient. The night nurse did not visit the ward between 1.40 and 2.25 a.m., as she was in charge of 34 children with scarlet fever, and was getting their breakfast ready. On revisiting the ward she was horrified to find that the infant had got between the bars of the cot

and was hanging by his shirt band, with his feet six inches from the floor strangled and dead. She was "too upset" to lift him into bed, so he was left hanging. A medical officer was sent for when the Night Sister arrived, but it is asserted did not visit the ward for six hours, and apparently nothing was done to resuscitate the child. The mother asserts that she was informed by telegram that the child died of heart failure, and permission was asked for a *post-mortem*. Apparently the doctor was not at the inquest. These are the facts baldly stated. No comment could add to their lurid horror, but if infants of this tender age are isolated and not continuously watched, the least the authorities can do is to provide safe cots covered over with netting. We wonder what was the training of the nurse who left the unfortunate child hanging because she was too upset to do anything else.

At the Annual Meeting of King Edward's Coronation Fund for Nurses, held at 86, Lower Leeson Street, Dublin, last week, when there was a large attendance of supporters of the Fund, the Annual Report was read by Sir Andrew Reed, who stated that 142 nurses are now registered members of the Society. Grants of £10 each were made to five members who applied for help during the year, and one of £12. One of the applicants was working at her profession in the County of Mayo and another in Galway. Resolutions of condolence with their Majesties King George V. and Queen Mary, and with Queen Alexandra, on the lamented death of the late Sovereign, were moved by Miss Kelly, Lady Superintendent of Dr. Steevens' Hospital, and seconded by Miss Lamont, Superintendent Irish Branch Q.V.J.I.

The President of the Royal College of Surgeons (Surgeon Lentaigne), in moving the adoption of the report, said that the Society was most valuable and greatly needed. Nurses who had to go through a most exacting period of training, and who were often delicately nurtured and delicately minded, had difficult and arduous duties, and required great skill and great aptitude, and sometimes almost super-human patience.

Miss Kelly and Miss MacDonnell, R.R.C., were elected members of the Council under Rule 15, and Miss Lamont (Q.V.J.I.), Miss Shuter (late Lady Superintendent of the Royal City of Dublin Hospital), Miss Powell (late Lady Superintendent Charlemont Hospital), Miss Butler (Lady Superintendent Sir Patrick Dun's Hospital), and Miss Ramsden (Lady Superintendent Rotunda Hospital), were the nurses elected by ballot.

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