

spoke for years and years, and then be placed in authority over a great educational establishment requiring the most liberal knowledge of man and matters. A wide knowledge of the world should be the necessary equipment of a head of a school—in hospital and elsewhere. Otherwise is there not a danger of the apotheosis of the pedant?

The Hospitals Committee of the British Medical Association has expressed itself in favour of the establishment of public, self-supporting home hospitals, to meet the needs of patients who cannot afford to pay the charges of a private nursing home, but do not desire to accept the charity of the ordinary hospitals. The Westminster Division of the B.M.A. are already acting in this matter, and propose to erect a Home Hospital of 40 beds, in Vincent Square, at a cost of £12,000, on the latest principles, and at a varying scale of fees. It will be controlled by members of the medical profession in conjunction with one or two business men.

We are glad to observe that the *Monthly Record* of the Penal Reform League approves the suggestion made in this journal for the formation of an "Elizabeth Fry League" to improve nursing in prisons, and asks "Why should not some devoted members of the Society of Friends do this?"

A new monthly magazine is to be issued shortly in the interests of prison warders.

Columns of new rules have been defined for the management of the North Staffordshire Infirmary—71 in all—and so far as we can gather trained nursing is to be omitted from the scheme of organisation. No professional standard is demanded of the Matron beyond the fact that "she shall be a lady who possesses knowledge and practical experience of nursing." In the absence of the Secretary and House Governor who is to have "control and administration of the hospital in all matters except the medical and surgical treatment of patients," the Matron will be under the authority of the young senior resident medical officer, who is to act as "head of the infirmary, and shall be responsible for the maintenance of order and good conduct throughout the whole establishment."

No provision for any standard of training for the nurses is projected, and indeed as no standard of discipline amongst the nurses—the most important item in the training—is possible where their senior officer, the Matron, is

under the control of an inexperienced young medical man, no doubt it would be waste of time to propose either an ethical or professional standard.

It is high time in the interests of the patients, and for the reputation of the North Staffordshire Infirmary, that this suggestion of placing women under the control of young men should be opposed by subscribers, who desire a high moral tone and good management maintained in this public institution.

The Matron should be responsible to the Committee for the Nursing Department, and should have direct access to them, and if this amount of authority is denied to her, her position is untenable, and she cannot be blamed for the inevitable disorganisation which will result.

The result of the "Historic" Bazaar in aid of the Walsall and District Hospital, dear to nurses as the scene of Sister Dora's devoted labours, proves that her memory is still cherished in the neighbourhood. The Committee appealed, as we last week stated, for £3,000, £2,000 to pay off a debt on the new wards, and £1,000 towards the maintenance fund. The total amount paid in by stall holders was £3,739, which, with donations, announced on the first day, reached a grand total of £5,484.

The General Meeting of the Whitehaven and West Cumberland Infirmary Ladies' Linen League, of which the Countess of Lonsdale is President, and Miss Mary C. Fair, a trained nurse, Hon. Secretary and Treasurer, held its annual meeting at the institution last week, when 75 ladies were present. The Hon. Secretary reported that 485 articles have been sent to the institution, the approximate cost of materials (without taking into consideration the cost of making) being £43 9s. 11d. Mrs. Jackson was re-elected Chairman of the Executive Committee, and other business having been transacted, the ladies present inspected the linen supplied through the efforts of the League, and much satisfaction was expressed by the Matron at the number and excellent quality of the articles she has received. The League, which has only recently been inaugurated, has 207 members.

Lady Stirling Maxwell will preside at the Annual Meeting of the Glasgow and West of Scotland Co-operation of Trained Nurses, which is to be held on the 17th inst. at the Charing Cross Halls, Glasgow, and at which

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