

siders that the infirmary is understaffed, and advocates the appointment of two additional nurses. That this recommendation is justified is apparent if, as is stated, the present proportion is one nurse for 32 patients, which means that on both day and night duty each nurse has the full care of 64 patients, and if one nurse goes off duty it is at the expense of the other who has to relieve her. The cases include patients with phthisis, septic legs, and cancer. Councillor Ratcliffe, on the other hand, states that in the event of two extra nurses being appointed, another must by law be appointed to supervise them. This would be, we imagine, for the great benefit of the patients under the care of the Holbeck Board of Guardians.

We are glad to observe that Dr. Holcroft is still contesting the proposal of the Borough of Hastings District Nursing Association to attend patients for small fees, and in reply to a letter to Dr. Haviland, Chairman of the Committee of the Association, published in the local press, protests against an organised charity competing in what he considers an unfair way with the local nurses, and considers this action tends to lower the status and emoluments of a most deserving class of women, and is ill-advised with regard to the success of the Association.

Dr. Haviland defends the position by saying that all other means having failed, the Committee decided to charge small fees to certain patients, which fees would help to provide funds for gratuitously nursing the very poor, and adds that the Queen Victoria's Jubilee Institute, "the recognised champion of nurses' rights throughout the kingdom sanctions the practice." But we may point out the object of the Q.V.J.I. is to supply nurses for the sick poor in their own homes, not to champion the rights of nurses.

Dr. Holcroft rejoins that "a charity that helps to maintain itself by sending out nurses for hire is in a delicate position," and adds "for a committee of well-to-do people to finance their charity in this manner is, in my opinion, the acme and quintessence of everything that is mean." The "charity," which takes the form of helping to finance institutions out of the earnings of working women, is, unfortunately far too common.

On Saturday, July 9th, Founder's Day, was celebrated with a Garden Party at Lady Margaret's Fruitarian Hospital, Bromley, Kent. The wards were bright with flowers, and the Sisters in their picturesque head-dresses were

busy with their guests, pointing out objects of interest, and ready to answer the many enquiries as to the mode of their working. In support of their principles it was shown that there had been no death after operations, though a large number of major operations have been performed there. The little theatre with its white tiled floor looked very business-like. The long verandah with its glass roof admits of open-air treatment for phthisis cases. There is a tiny chapel with oak stalls facing north and south. As may be supposed, the chief interest centred round the kitchen, where the Sister of that department showed us many cunning dishes prepared according to the principles of the institution. Sausages and cutlets made from dark beans, blanc manges made with vegetable gelatin, pastry mixed with nut fat instead of lard, etc. As the kitchen has to serve for a refectory as well it must require much forethought and method to secure comfort during the meals as well as efficiency in the serving. It is a quaint room with doors opening into the garden, and the floor laid with red tiles, and it is adorned with clever panelling in poker work. Tea was served here for the visitors, and afterwards music was given in the women's ward, and a stall of needlework for the benefit of the funds of the hospital was at one end of the verandah. There was a good number of visitors present.

A most successful Garden Fête and Sale of Work recently took place in the grounds of the County Hospital, Bedford, which was organised by the Bedfordshire Hospital Guild, and planned on a scale of attractiveness worthy of the cause it was intended to benefit.

The opening ceremony was performed by Adeline, Duchess of Bedford, and Lord Ampthill, Chairman of the Hospital, expressed the great pleasure of all present in welcoming the Duchess again in Bedford where at one time she played so important a part in the life of the county. The little son of Lord and Lady Ampthill then presented to the Duchess a beautiful bouquet of flowers, and Miss Munro, the Matron, on behalf of herself and the nursing staff, presented some lovely carnations to Lady Ampthill.

Her Grace was then conducted round the hospital by Lord and Lady Ampthill and the Matron, and distributed flowers to the adult patients and toys to the children. She was delighted with her visit, and gave much pleasure by saying that the Children's Ward was the sweetest she had ever seen. As a result of the day's proceedings the Guild have over £600 to give to the funds of the hospital.

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