

vice from a private medical practitioner, and had been unable to do so for various financial reasons.

The annual meeting of the Victoria Nursing Association was held in the Town Hall, Kirkcaldy, last week, Bailie Dishart presiding. Lady Helen Munro Ferguson, in submitting the annual report, said that during the past year the three nurses of the staff had visited 549 cases, of which 442 were nursed to convalescence, 26 were removed to hospital, 65 died, and 87 remained on the books. In compliance with the request of the Medical Officer of the burgh, steps have been taken to form a small band of health visitors to act in connection with the notification cases. Mr. Brewster, Hon. Treasurer, reported a total income of £323 18s. 5d., and an expenditure of £315 12s. 5d. The reports were adopted.

Speaking to a graduating class of nurses, as reported in the *Dietetic and Hygienic Gazette*, Dr. Gilman Thompson said:—

“My good friend, Dr. Richard Cabot, of Boston, in answer to the question, ‘What forces are there in the profession of medicine that tend to bring out the best in those who practice it?’ mentions five, all which seem to me to have equal application to the calling of the nurse. These are:—

- “1. The sense of obvious utility to others.
- “2. The inspiration of taking part in the progress of science.
- “3. The call for manual and mental adroitness.
- “4. The interest of the community in the profession and its aims.
- “5. The friendly contact with men, women, and children.

“If I were to epitomise the functions of the nurse which are of foremost importance I should mention three.

- “1. The knowledge and practice of anti-septic cleanliness.
- “2. The gentle art of making the patient comfortable in bed, and
- “3. A rational common sense view of such broad general principles as I have outlined.”

Miss van Lanschot-Hubrecht, who attended the Neo-Malthusian Congress, held at Gravenhagen, considers that the battle cry of the Congress may be summarised thus: Fewer children and better quality, better cared for, and more successfully kept alive. Incidentally, the economic inferiority of women was shown to be an obstacle in the way of a higher type of humanity.

The Hospital World.

THE LONDON LOCK HOSPITAL.

An unique hospital in London, and one of very few in the country, is the London Lock Hospital, the women's hospital being in the Harrow Road and the men's in Dean Street, Soho, yet it provides for the treatment of diseases which are wide spread, which, in the interests of the community as well as of the individual, it is of the utmost importance to eradicate, and it does so in the most humane and wise lines, so that the institution has a strong claim upon the country, for the cases received are not restricted to London and come from all parts for treatment, including, saddest of all, those poor women suffering from no fault of their own from diseases hereditary or otherwise, and the little children who, instead of entering upon their rightful heritage of joyous, healthy life, are from birth the victims of sin and disease.

For some time the authorities of the hospital have desired to make more provision for the children, and also to provide a separate home for their nursing staff, and last week this desire was accomplished. The new Nurses' Home was, on Friday, February 10th, opened by Princess Christian of Schleswig Holstein, and every one who saw it was charmed at the way in which the work had been carried out. All nurses need a comfortable home in which to live if their duties are to be performed in the best manner, and none so much as those engaged in so arduous and heart-breaking a work as that of nursing cases of venereal disease. Setting aside the risk of infection, reduced to a minimum by the careful observation of necessary rules, to those who see under the surface, and realise in any degree the underlying causes of which the diseases treated in this hospital are the outward manifestation, life must press hardly at times, and the antidote is to get away into a different atmosphere, in order to keep that mental balance which, both for themselves and their patients, is so essential.

The Committee have realised this, and the Home they have provided for their nurses is sunny, bright, and charming, well built, and comfortably furnished. The walls in many instances are a delicate shade of mauve, a colour seldom seen in the utilitarian institution, but with comfortable furniture in excellent taste, and some good pictures, of which the Matron, Miss Garrett, is an excellent judge, the atmosphere is delightful. The nurses' bedrooms also are most comfortable, and the Committee has really found architects

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