

We are further informed that the allegations are correct that each member of the Board had not been notified that the dismissal of the Matron would be moved at the meeting which decided on this course, and that, on the contrary, two members of the hon. staff were informed by telephone that, owing to the Chairman's absence, the enquiry in the alleged complaints would be adjourned, and further, that though Miss Addis received her salary quarterly, and was therefore entitled to a quarter's notice, or salary in lieu thereof, the Board have paid her only one month's salary.

The Chairman, Mr. Roberts, has indicated his opinion of the action of the Board by resigning the position forthwith. It now behoves the Board to officially acquaint Miss Addis with the reasons which led to her dismissal, and to give her full opportunity of meeting the charges against her.

Their action serves to illustrate the autocratic power possessed by Hospital Boards over the workers in the institutions which they govern, and the nursing profession is beginning to realize that it is time all trustees of public funds were themselves subject to public control. Had the case been that of the Matron of a Poor Law infirmary she could not have been dismissed without the sanction of the Local Government Board, and without the right to state her case, and to ask for a Local Government Board enquiry. As Miss Addis is the Matron of a voluntary hospital the Governing Body is a law to itself and she has no such rights. Is it surprising that many people support the policy of the Labour Party that all voluntary hospitals should be placed under State control?

At the annual meeting of the Huddersfield and District Sick Poor Nurses' Association the annual report was presented. During the year there had been 1,052 applications for nurses' services and 27,087 visits had been paid to patients, a decrease of seven cases and 344 visits. The nurses had attended 131 operations, and 121 maternity cases. The balance-sheet showed the income to have been £1,115 16s. 1d., and the balance in the bank £64 6s. 1d., against a balance due to the bank last year of £193 12s. 8d. The report and balance-sheet were adopted, and the name of the Mayor for the time being was added to the Management Committee. It was stated that the Huddersfield

Corporation had decided to make an annual grant of £50.

No body of women render more useful service to the community than the Queen's Nurses who, year in and year out, in sunshine and storm, render skilled service to the sick poor in their own homes, and the associations responsible for the financial side of the work deserve better support than is usually accorded them. The Hon. Officers of the Hull Jubilee District Nursing Association are making a strong appeal for funds, in which they say that during last month the ten nurses upon the staff of the Association paid 2,734 visits to 115 cases, and lent 39 various sick appliances, such as water beds, bath chairs, &c. The Executive Committee feel that they ought not to have any anxieties about money to carry on their necessary and important work, but as time passes old subscribers fall off from various causes, and must be replaced. Each nurse costs the institution about £100 per annum, and there are ten at work, and it is hoped during the coming winter to increase the staff to twelve or thirteen. The committee dislike bazaars and individual begging, and they feel certain that they have only to make their needs known in order to receive sufficient support to free them from all further anxiety. We hope their confidence will be justified.

The eighteenth annual report of the North Argyll Nursing Association, of which Mrs. Allan of Aros is president, states that during the year four nurses attended 176 patients, to whom they paid 2,327 visits. Nurse Thorburn succeeded Nurse Fletcher in the Shielbridge and Moidart district. Nurse Elliot, who for many years had been in charge of Kilchoan and Western Ardnamurchan district, resigned in July, and a Queen's Jubilee Nurse conversant with Gaelic has been appointed in her place. Nurse Elliot was presented with a gold chain and pendant, and through the generosity of Mr. D. C. Rudd of Ardnamurchan, a member of the Executive Committee, a successor was appointed. The income for the year was £211 and the expenditure £209.

#### AN INTERESTING BEQUEST.

The late Sir William Schwenck Gilbert, playwright and author, has bequeathed a bronze statuette of himself, by Andrea Lucchesi, to Miss Cara Pillans, Matron of the Bushey Heath Cottage Hospital.

[previous page](#)

[next page](#)