

THE IRISH NURSING WORLD.

THE NATIONAL INSURANCE BILL.

A General Meeting of the Irish Nurses' Association, which was largely attended, was held on Saturday, September 30th, at 34, St. Stephen's Green, Dublin. Miss Keogh, the President, was in the chair. The amendments to the National Insurance Bill suggested by the Standing Committee were read and discussed with great interest—matrons, sisters and nurses taking part, and additional amendments were suggested. Miss Amy Hughes, who was present, gave some very helpful information on the subject of the Bill, as did Mrs. Kildare Tracy and Miss Kelly. It was decided to hold further meetings of the Standing Committee, to revise and complete the amendments, copies of which it was decided should be sent to the Chief Secretary, Members of Parliament, and other influential people.

SEMI-TRAINED DISTRICT NURSES.

The Irish nursing world has lately been deeply perturbed by the lowering of nursing standards in district nursing, which has been discussed in the *Irish Homestead* by the Hon. Albinia Brodrick, on the side of efficiency, of course.

Now, under the heading of "Scottish versus Irish Nurses," a correspondent in the *Dublin Telegraph* asks: "Why is it that girls, after having had a very superficial training in nursing of six or seven months (instead of two or three years), are brought over from Scotland and sent to the country parts of Ireland to take positions which should be filled by our properly qualified Irish nurses? When it is so hard to find suitable employment for girls in Ireland, surely it is unfair to bring over incompetent strangers to take up one of the few occupations which ensure Irish girls an honourable and independent livelihood.

"But, in conclusion, why, oh, why, has the Irish Nurses' Association not taken up these grievances with a view to exposing and removing them?"

This last paragraph has aroused attention, and a notice of motion was handed in at the meeting of the Irish Nurses' Association on the subject, asking that the subject should be dealt with. It is stated that nurses are being brought over to Ireland from Govan in Scotland, where nurses are mechanized with remarkable celerity—somewhat after the quick-change methods of transforming piggiewigs into sausages at Chicago!—and that Irish nurses who are renowned for their strength of professional

feeling, are deeply incensed at this attempt to depreciate their three years' standard of training, and sweat nursing work.

We are glad to hear that it is very probable that Irish nurses will issue a very emphatic protest against this most unjustifiable immigration! In England the flooding of rural districts with semi-trained women is having a most disastrous effect on the quality of District Nursing.

QUEEN VICTORIA'S JUBILEE INSTITUTE.

EXAMINATION FOR THE ROLL OF QUEEN'S NURSES, SEPTEMBER 21st, 1911.

1.—Why is a supply of pure water necessary to health?

What would lead you to think that the water supply to a certain house was contaminated, and what would you do if you thought so?

2.—What are the chief points to remember in nursing a case of Phthisis in a poor home? In nursing such a case how would you try to protect the other members of the family from contracting the disease,

- (1) While the patient is alive?
- (2) After death?

3.—On undertaking to nurse a maternity case, first child, what advice would you give the mother,

- (1) With regard to the care of her own health before delivery?
- (2) With regard to the preparation she should make for the confinement?

4.—In what ways do continued drought and great heat affect the health of children in a crowded town? How can a District Nurse assist under these conditions?

5.—What are the chief evils, physical and moral, of domestic overcrowding and what could you do when such cases come under your observation?

6.—Are chronic cases to be considered important in working a district? If you are working alone in a district where you have many acute cases, how can you manage so that your chronic cases may not feel neglected?

TRANSFERS AND APPOINTMENTS.

Miss Tait McKay as County Superintendent to Cornwall; Miss Margaret Cretney is appointed Assistant Superintendent, Harpurhey Home, Manchester; Miss Norah Bruckshaw to Widnes; Miss Helen Langbridge to Chapel-en-le-Frith; Miss Florence Butler to Truro; Miss Catherine McDonald to Manchester; Miss Mary Davies to East Side, Swansea; Miss Mary Ford to Edenbridge; Miss Amy Bignill to Three Towns.

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