

country matrons to attend many meetings at a distance owing to expense, but to meet together in local centres for free discussion is exceedingly useful. By and bye, no doubt, each county will have a branch society of matrons, all in touch with a national association through affiliation. The force of the consensus of opinion of such a body would be exceedingly influential, and of benefit to the public generally.

The following advertisements will throw a side-light on public estimation of Nursing. Don't all apply at once.

WANTED.—Domesticated NURSE. Help in house and needlework. Nurse in small parish when required. Wages £16.

WILL any sisterhood receive HYSTERICAL GIRL. Bright, strong, used to NURSING. Fullest information in confidence.

At the interesting ceremony at the Newcastle Workhouse, when Councillor Johnstone Wallace presented certificates to the probationers who had completed their three years' training, and the prizes awarded by the Heath Nursing Trust to the successful nurses at the recent yearly examination, he said the Guardians were to be congratulated very sincerely for having recognised the importance of good nursing. In ten years they had increased their nursing staff from one superintendent, three charge nurses, and nine probationers, to one superintendent, six charge nurses, and forty probationers. The Guardians had decided to commence with the building of a new hospital block which was much needed. When that was completed he felt sure the nurses would be able to carry out their duties even more efficiently than they had in the past, and there would be a great improvement in the well-being of the patients under their care.

Miss Madeleine McArdle, the Lady Superintendent of St. Lawrence's Home, Q.V.J.I., Dublin, directs the attention of the citizens of Dublin to the great need for good food and clothes for the poor patients attended by Queen's Nurses. During the past year 60,000 visits have been paid by the nurses from St. Lawrence's Home. It is found that in very many cases the best nursing is of very little use unless something can be done to give the patient good nourishing food and warm clothes. Concerts have from time to time been given to raise funds for the sustenance of patients, and this money has been spent in providing milk and nourishing food in very needy cases.

It is quite impossible to buy proper clothes for the patients, and the want of them is a very heavy handicap, especially during the winter months. Miss McArdle says to those who have clothes to spare, "Let them put them in a parcel and send them to the Home. They will be a great boon to the poor people to whom they will be given through us."

No system of organization is more detrimental to discipline in a hospital than authority divided between the Matron and the Housekeeper in the nursing department, and this has proved true once more at the Belfast Workhouse. Great dissatisfaction has been expressed with regard to the management of the Nurses' Home, and in a report prepared by a special committee for the Guardians the following letter was included from the Lady Superintendent, Miss Howlett:—

"I wish to report to your Board that the management of the lady housekeeper has been unsatisfactory for some time. There is general dissatisfaction amongst the nurses, who have frequently complained to me about their want of comfort, and they seem to me to be in a state of general discontent, which I have not experienced with them before. In my opinion there is a great want of tact and method on the part of the housekeeper, which has been the cause of the unsatisfactory state of affairs in the Home."

The Board discussed the matter fully, and it was agreed by a majority that, having heard the written report of the Lady Superintendent and the reports of Mrs. Finlay and Miss Andrews made on their behalf by the Chairman, "Miss Rose G. Fleming, lady housekeeper, be asked to send in her resignation." Mr. Mitchell claimed that Miss Fleming should have a chance of defending herself, and rightly, we think, an amendment to this effect was approved.

The Guardians of the Dromore West Union, Co. Sligo, Ireland, undeterred by a strong remonstrance from the Local Government Board, which wrote that the proposal to invite tenders for the position of male attendant was most objectionable, proceeded to investigate the tenders sent in. The L.G.B. reminded the Guardians that in making the appointment they should be guided solely by the candidate's competency, and not by the rate of remuneration he was willing to accept; but they nevertheless accepted the lowest tender, from a young man who offered to do the work at 2s. 11½d. per week!

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