

In the Middlesbrough police court on Monday, Edith Goddard appeared in the dock in nursing uniform on three charges of false pretences and larceny. The prosecution stated that the prisoner obtained whisky on her statement that it was for patients, informing one firm that she was employed by Dr. Levick. She asked permission of the same firm to use the telephone, and availed herself of the leave given to inform Messrs. Dickson & Benson, Ltd., that Lady Hampden Smith was sending her nurse for goods, which were to be entered to Lady Smith's account. She then went to the shop, and selected articles to the value of £3 15s. Lady Smith repudiated all knowledge of the transaction, and the prisoner was arrested. The case was adjourned.

At a meeting of the Irish Nurses' Association held at 34, St. Stephen's Green, Dublin, last Saturday, to consider the advisability of starting a Friendly Society for Nurses only, it was agreed after discussion not to do so at present. As a special administration is to be constituted under the National Insurance Bill for Ireland, the nurses will await further information.

### A RED LETTER DAY.

#### A NEW SCHOOL FOR NURSES IN BRUSSELS.

Sunday, October 29th, was a memorable day for nursing in Belgium, for on that day the ceremony of inauguration of the School for Nurses for the Hospitals of Brussels took place in the Gothic room of its splendid Hotel de Ville.

This School was started three years ago, in spite of numberless difficulties, as well as of the opposition of the party who wished to maintain the monopoly of the nursing sisterhood; it does the greatest honour to the Committee of the *Hospices et Secours de la Ville de Bruxelles*, that the initial difficulties were overcome, and that the President, Mr. Catteau, a Belgian Senator, was able to carry through this work successfully with the help of Mr. Hallet, a lawyer and the Administrator of the School.

It is located in a wing of the Hospital St. Jean, and the Nurses' Home is in the Rue Pachéco; the house is small, but prettily furnished, on the ground floor are the dining and drawing rooms, and on the first and second floors twenty very comfortable bedrooms.

The School was organised after the return of Dr. De Backer from a mission to America, to the American Schools; consequently it has established adequate standards. The engagement is for five years.]

Mr. Max, the Burgomaster, presided at the meeting, supported by the Aldermen, the Governors of the Almshouses, Mr. Klobukowski, the French Ambassador at Brussels, and many other well known persons. Mr. G. Mesureur, Director of the Assistance Publique of Paris, made an eloquent speech, part of which we reproduce:—

“ ‘Hospital’ is an old-time word describing a place which has only lately ceased to be regarded as forbidden, and which in the past was a place of terror, confounded too often with the workhouse and the prison. It brought together in a fearful promiscuousness all the misery, all the physical and moral dregs of Society; then as development took place under the broad and organizing ideas of the French Revolution, classification was introduced; the asylum was provided for the aged, the orphanage for the children, the lying-in hospital for the maternity cases, and for the patient in the hospital a bed to himself. There his life was quieter, calmer, but the art of healing was still very expectant, leaving nature to act, and surgery was not yet sufficiently daring. Our hospitals were a species of guardian for the sick, and one can understand the contemplative part filled by the religious community. The hospital was, in fact, a house of rest where one learnt resignation, and its administration was very simple. Sufficient outward cleanliness; in the dispensary shining glass jars, in the linen-room piles of linen symmetrically arranged; in the wards highly-polished floors, and rows of beds the white curtains of which were drawn together when it was necessary to hide from the other patients the throes of death. Surrounding the nuns were a host of unassuming servants composed of the outcast class, who did the hard work, and the painful and repulsive tasks.”

Dr. De Backer, Professor at the School, and Mr. Catteau then spoke in their turn, to explain the organization of the new School and recall all the difficulties which had been surmounted.

The School for Nurses of the Assistance Publique of Paris, wishing to show their great sympathy for the Belgian School, and Mr. André Mesureur, who had been a few days previously in Brussels, sent to this interesting ceremony Mlle. Clément, the Matron, and Mlles. Gosselin and Danviray, monitresses of the School of the Salpêtrière. Needless to say they were warmly welcomed. Mlle. Gosselin, who underwent a long probation in England, was not unknown in Belgium, where she has made a special study of the use of psycho-therapy.

It was a grand day for the nursing profession in Belgium.

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