

Mr. Starkey, a member of the junior staff at St. Bartholomew's Hospital, chose "Nurse" for the title of his paper read before the Abernethian Society. We gather from the report in the Hospital's journal that the discussion was both amusing and academic. The inevitable opinion was expressed that husband-hunting was the first motive which actuated the majority of women to take up the profession of nursing! Human vanity is a forcible factor in the formation of opinion in the male, especially in youth; so take heart of grace, all you thousands of strong, sensible, happy sisters and nurses, who, in spite of single blessedness, do not appear to be withering on your virgin stalk.

"The discussion," we read, "finally took the form of an amicable wrangle as to how much nurses ought to be taught, and whether or no the clinical side of their training was being developed at the expense of the purely personal nursing. Gentlemen were beginning to establish their ideas of a curriculum for those responsible for the training of nurses to follow, when the closure was timely applied, and we departed with the conviction that the general impression was that any undesirable features in nurses that had been enumerated were exceptions in the members of a very charming profession."

Not only charming, but absolutely indispensable in the practical application of scientific medicine in all its phases. Realise that little fact, would-be future masters in medicine. In "these meanwhiles" study the elements of practical nursing if you wish to "arrive."

The second meeting of the Ladies' Linen League connected with St. Bartholomew's Hospital, Rochester, was held last week at the Hospital, the President, Lady Darnley, being in the chair.

It is gratifying to note that after about six months' work the members of the League have handed over to the hospital over 200 articles for ward and patients' use, and have also from their funds provided warm bed jackets for one large ward. This help is particularly welcome at a time when the hospital is greatly in need of funds.

The strike of five probationer nurses at the Carlisle Workhouse Hospital has, after enquiry, decided the Board of Guardians to ask the Local Government Board to hold an

enquiry, with a view to asking the superintendent nurse to send in her resignation.

Representatives of the North and South Wales Nursing Associations met recently at the residence of Lord and Lady St. Davids for the purpose of considering the question of training Queen's Nurses for Wales, in co-operation with the Queen's Jubilee Institute, with which the Nursing Associations of Wales are affiliated. The arrangements for adequate district nursing throughout the Principality were discussed, and definite proposals were agreed upon to lay before the Council of the Institute at its next meeting.

We sincerely hope that every encouragement will be given to obtaining fully trained Nurses for the Welsh poor. We hear many complaints from superintendents of the increasing difficulty of securing the best type of woman to train as village nurses. Well-educated girls want to be fully trained, and in this they show their wisdom.

But County Nursing Associations, which have done so much to depreciate rural district nursing, are not altogether to blame. Highly qualified nurses will not, they complain, work for long in dull and lonely districts. That may be, but let them be justly paid and a high standard maintained, and they need neither be so dull nor so lonely. The competition of the semi-trained is a very real grievance with Queen's Nurses, and has no doubt lowered their prestige.

A typical instance of the assurance of ignorance is to be found in a letter addressed to the Press by a correspondent who states that she is a village nurse for three villages. The usual training of a village nurse is about nine months, not necessarily in a hospital. The writer of the letter suggests that, "instead of a doctor being paid 6s. per head for insured persons, trained nurses should be appointed to visit the insured sick." She proceeds: "I am village nurse for three villages which contain about 4,000 people—sick and well, delicate and robust. Surely if a nurse can undertake the work of attending to 4,000 such people she could attend in time of need 2,000 who are at present well and at work."

"If the Government were to employ a trained nurse for every 2,000 persons insured, and allow her to send for a doctor at her own discretion, there would be a great saving in the doctor's bill, which at 6s. per head for

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