

may have one day's rest in seven. The Board has sanctioned the appointment of five, so that the members of the nursing staff will get one day off in a fortnight. If this were the allowance for male officials working under the department what an outcry there would be.

Speaking at Manchester, at a conference of representatives of Nursing Institutes, Mrs. E. Holt, ex-Lady Mayoress, who presided, referring to the National Insurance Act, said that it would certainly be in the interests of approved societies to secure the best means of reducing their sick pay, and she knew of no better way of effecting this than by having good nurses. She advised Societies affiliated to the Queen Victoria's Jubilee Institute to lose no opportunity of approaching approved societies at the earliest possible date, or they might make other arrangements, as Education Committees did when the Act providing for the Medical Inspection of School Children came into force.

Miss Amy Hughes, speaking at the Annual Meeting of the Leicester and District Nursing Association, referred to the fact that under the National Insurance Act Friendly Societies could help Nursing Associations by contributing to their funds. Also under one of the amendments Local Health Committees could give nursing benefits to those insured through the Post Office. In regard to the nurses, as they would have to be compulsorily insured, they wished to have a special approved society under the scheme. She did not fear the result of the Insurance Act on established associations. The reason for the success of Queen's Nurses was that they were fully trained hospital nurses, with special training in the social conditions of the people they were to attend.

The Dickens Fellowship at Portsmouth last week handed to the Mayor £600 specially collected for the Victoria Jubilee Nursing Association.

At a recent meeting of the Lanchester Guardians, when the appointment of a nurse was under consideration, one of the candidates withdrew, another failed to attend, and two refused to accept the appointment on account of the length of the hours on duty. Several Guardians shouted "Strike" as the nurses withdrew, which seems to indicate that the candidates were wise in their decision. Eventually the appointment of a nurse was deferred, pending the consideration of the question of amending the rules.

THE LEAGUE OF SCHOOL NURSES.

The annual meeting of the above League was held on February 9th at the Education Office.

As the president, Miss Pearse, was unavoidably prevented from attending, the chair was taken by the vice-president, Miss Buxton.

The annual report showed a membership of 85 as against 61 of last year.

The report of the treasurer (Miss Parkman) showed a balance in hand of £4 13s. 6d.

The report from Miss Layton, the secretary of the Benevolent Fund, was a very good one. Eight members had received benefit during the year, and the amount in hand, with a small amount out in loans, amounted to £59 14s. 6d.

The term of office of the treasurer having expired, it was proposed by Miss Williams that she be re-elected; this was seconded by Miss A. V. Barton, and carried unanimously.

Miss Horsfield and Miss Padbury were then elected members of the executive committee, in place of Miss Williams and Miss Waite, who retire after three years' service.

A new committee for the Benevolent Fund and an entertainment committee were then formed.

The Insurance Bill was mentioned briefly.

THE USE AND HYGIENE OF THE TEETH.

Dr. Thomas had a very appreciative audience on Wednesday, February 7th, when he gave a lecture on "The Use and Hygiene of the Teeth."

He recommended the nurses to know as much as possible about the teeth, so as to be in a position to advise the parents.

In the feeding of children a great deal could be done to prevent caries occurring.

Hard food was necessary for the development of the jaw; there was much less risk of caries in a properly developed jaw, the teeth having room to grow and therefore less risk of overlapping or irregularity. The six-year-old molar was an important tooth to know about, as it was so often considered to be one of the first teeth and of no importance.

The chief cause of caries, Dr. Thomas stated, was the collection of soft food, such as bread and biscuits, round the teeth at night time.

He gave an instance of two families, the children in each case being healthy and well-cared for, but in one the children had carious teeth. After careful inquiry it was found that in the latter, after the customary teeth-cleaning at night, the children were allowed biscuits.

Dr. Thomas considers it a mistake to encourage the use of the tooth brush in the poorest families for obvious reasons.

Get them to eat proper food and rinse the mouth out at bedtime is his advice.

He mentioned the soldiers who were provided with tooth brushes and were discovered later using them for polishing their buttons.

The lecture was illustrated throughout with lantern slides.

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[previous page](#)

[next page](#)