

Superintendent of district nurses expressed on this question. In her opinion many old people living with others, contributing the five shillings a week, are neglected. They are not kept clean and comfortable, and were it not for the skilled ministrations of the district nurse would be in a sorry plight. In the opinion of this Superintendent, the State might well contribute to the upkeep of the trained nurses' associations which provide help for these old pensioners. At present the State gives an insufficient sum—upon which a pensioner cannot be kept in sanitary surroundings—and the fact remains that if charity does not step in, such persons may become a common danger to the health of the community. An old-age pension, to be of real benefit, should not be less than ten shillings a week, and honest old working men and women well deserve it.

Nurses on the private nursing staff at Guy's Hospital now receive £30 salary the first year of service in the institution, £35 the second, and £40 the third, and the recent report of the institution contains a letter, signed by Miss Mary Hanmer on behalf of the private nurses, thanking the Committee for this increase, and also for the 48 hours' leave which they are to be allowed six times a year on returning from a case before going out to another. Last year the amount paid to the managers for the nurses' services was £11,034, the highest sum yet received.

Speaking at the annual meeting of the Worcester City and County Nursing Association, the Countess of Dudley said that next to the relief of suffering and the preservation of life, the educational side of district nursing was of the greatest possible importance and advantage to the community. A wisely administered and widespread system of district nursing was an agency for safeguarding the public health and raising the physical standard second to none. District nursing was now an Imperial institution; in Canada in the last ten years a far-flung system had covered the Dominion from Nova Scotia to Vancouver, and in Australia also the idea had grown till it was now well established, not only in the large cities, but in the back blocks of the Australian Bush.

Queen's Nurses in Brighton have now entered upon possession of their new home in Wellington Road, which is part of the local memorial to the late King, although the formal opening will not take place for some months.

The Superintendent (Miss Buckle), the Assistant Superintendent, and the maids have their quarters in the main part of the building, where are also the nurses' study, sitting and dining rooms, while the commodious new wing contains eighteen nurses' bedrooms, three bathrooms, and two district rooms. The latter are provided with sterilizing appliances, arrangements for cleaning mackintoshes, well-stocked cupboards which are the pride of the Superintendent, hot-water pipes for drying cloaks, and other up-to-date contrivances which add to the comfort and smooth working of such a home.

Her Excellency the Viscountess Gladstone spoke at a recent public meeting in the City Hall Library, Cape Town, for the King Edward VII. Memorial Fund for the institution of an Order of Nurses in South Africa. The Mayor (Sir Frederick Smith) said that more than a year ago a meeting had been held in the same room to discuss the project. They had then come to no decision, but adjourned the meeting until Lady Gladstone came to address them.

Her Excellency said that of the two suggestions for a memorial, the establishment of tuberculosis sanatoria or of an Order of Nurses, there was a great preponderance of opinion in favour of the latter proposition, and the committee had no choice but to abide by the opinion they had invoked. She explained that Branches of the Order would be established in each of the four Provinces of the Union, which would be placed under the superintendence of Matrons. The nurses, to be placed in districts which guaranteed a certain sum, would receive a fixed salary. Lady Gladstone said that during her two years' residence in South Africa nothing had appealed to her so much as the need for skilled nurses, especially amongst the poor and in the country districts. The Order was not confined to white people as subscribers, or to white nurses. The contributions of coloured people would be used exclusively for the employment and training of coloured nurses, and those of white people for the maintenance of nurses for the white population.

The picture on the following page is one of the popular Matron of the Hendon Infirmary, Miss Elma Smith, and other members of the staff, taken in the costumes in which they appeared at the Nurses' Dickens Party at the Doré

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