

for the South-Western Counties; Miss du Sautoy, County Superintendent; and Miss Norah Fry, Assistant Hon. Secretary.

Mistakes leading to friction still apparently take place at the Brownlow Hill Workhouse at Liverpool, owing to confusion between the titles of the Matron and the Lady Superintendent. It seems a nosegay intended for the Superintendent was addressed to the Matron, and naturally this officer retained and enjoyed the flowers. A distinct nursing title should be given to the Superintendent, who is responsible for the nursing of the patients and supervision of the nursing staff. This might help to avoid mistakes, which evidently are not conducive to the harmonious working of the institution.

The *Irish Catholic* evinces, we think, unnecessary anxiety concerning the faith of Queen's nurses and Lady Dudley nurses working in Ireland. It is quite natural that sick people like those of their own religious faith to attend to them—and this appears to be the aim, as far as possible, of the committees of these two nursing societies. Indeed, Miss Mynha Bradshaw, the Secretary of the Lady Dudley Nursing Scheme, states that every nurse working under the scheme is a Catholic, therefore the implied charge that Protestant nurses are favoured falls to the ground, as none are employed. We may add that there is no sectarianism or nationality in true nursing: to teach the beneficent laws of health and to relieve suffering—that is the fundamental tenet of our professional faith; let us cling to it, whatever our religion may be. No religion is of much account which is not broad based on tolerance and mercy.

ANOTHER SUICIDE.

An inquest was held last week at Bournemouth into the death of a probationer nurse at the Bournemouth Isolation Hospital, Boscombe. Dr. Edwards, Medical Officer of Health, who is also Medical Superintendent of the Hospital, testified to the terrible injuries sustained by the deceased nurse, whose body was found on the railway line. In reply to a jurymen Dr. Edwards said that she had given satisfaction in the execution of her duties and there was nothing he knew of to cause her distress. The probationer who shared her room said she was worried about her mother and sister, who were ill, but she was quite happy in her work. The Matron, Miss J. E. Cook, testified that on the night of her death the Night Sister reported that the nurse was not in bed. As it was after 10 o'clock she became alarmed and sent the porter to look for her.

The jury returned a verdict of suicide whilst temporarily insane.

THE GUY'S HOSPITAL GARDEN PARTY.

The Annual Garden Party at Guy's Hospital, on the invitation of the Governors and Medical Staff, is always a most enjoyable event, participated in by many hundreds of former members of the medical and nursing schools.

This year the day (Thursday in last week) was superb, and the Park was crowded with ladies in summer toilettes and men in bright academical robes, renewing old acquaintance and enjoying the excellent music. The balconies outside the wards were also utilized to their fullest extent, by patients as well as for tea parties, and the scene, with the grey walls of this fine old hospital in the background, was very gay and animated.

A limited number gained admission to the lecture theatre in the new School Buildings—crowded to the utmost capacity—where the medals and prizes were distributed to successful students by the Marquess of Salisbury, G.C.V.O.

The Treasurer, Viscount Goschen, who presided, first called upon the Dean to present the Annual Report of the Medical and Dental Schools. The statistics showed that, in common with all other medical schools, the entry of medical students had declined. In 1911 the students registered in the General Medical Council only numbered 1,232, as compared with 2,405 in 1901, which was the lowest record since 1872. It was attributed to the uncertainty of the prospects of the profession, which deters parents from putting their sons into it.

The ceremony of the prize distribution then took place, and in the course of his speech Lord Salisbury paid a high tribute to the nurses of this country. He was, he declared, lost in admiration of nurses—all nurses—who, he said, were always cheerful, skilful, and industrious. In private practice they might have to deal with tiresome and rude patients, but they must never resent it, but loyally do their best to cure them. They must realize, therefore, how hard and devoted was the life of nurses. Proceeding to venture on a word of criticism, Lord Salisbury suggested whether the hospitals of London were not in one sense too generous. Considering the advantages of the treatment conferred, were they not too indiscriminate in giving them for nothing. Many people availed themselves of their services in serious illness who might pay, but did not pay for anything. Was that prudent or fair? Why neglect a source of revenue which seemed so obvious when patients could and so ought to pay?

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