

was the same. It was entirely indefensible, and it was to be hoped that King Edward's Hospital Fund for London would support this view, and take steps to prevent such expenditure in the future.

No amendment having been proposed, the Resolution was put to the meeting and carried unanimously.

Miss E. Pell Smith then proposed a vote of thanks to the chairman, not only for presiding at the meeting, but for her work in support of the Registration Cause at all times—it was impossible to say how much nurses owed her. This was carried enthusiastically by acclamation.

The meeting then concluded, and, on the hospitable invitation of Mrs. Walter Spencer those present adjourned for tea to 2, Portland Place, which was the more appreciated as the meeting had been long and animated.

A most interesting guest was Miss Elizabeth M. Burns, R.N.; one of the passengers rescued when the *Titanic* foundered, who renewed several friendships made at the Buffalo Congress, U.S.A., in 1901; and had much to tell of nursing progress in America.

MARGARET BREAY,  
*Hon. Secretary.*

### A MATRON'S LIBEL ACTION.

Miss Elizabeth Birnie Couper, Matron of the Clackmannan Infectious Diseases Hospital, Alloa, who, in the Court of Session, Edinburgh, last year, brought an action for libel against Lord Balfour of Burleigh, which was eventually dismissed, has now produced fresh evidence and claimed a trial by jury.

Lord Dewar stated that the substance of the case presented by Miss Couper was that at the defender's request the charges he made against her had been investigated on three separate occasions by three impartial tribunals, and she had been declared innocent on all three occasions; yet the defender would not acknowledge her innocence, but persisting in accusing her still.

The defender's position was that he made the statement complained of on a privileged occasion, and without malice, and was, therefore, under no legal obligation to withdraw anything he said.

His Lordship, who gave judgment and allowed the issues for the trial of the action, said that the question whether the pursuer was entitled to such a trial depended upon whether she had stated on record facts from which, if proved, a jury might reasonably infer that the defender was not acting in the public interest but from some improper motive. He thought if the considerations which weighed with him were proved to the satisfaction of the jury they might quite reasonably reach such a conclusion. He considered that the occasions on which the pursuer relied were privileged, and that, therefore, the word "maliciously" must be inserted in all the issues.

## APPOINTMENTS.

### MATRON.

Cottage Hospital, Warwick.—Miss M. Templeton has been appointed Matron. She was trained at St. Thomas' Hospital, London, and has been Matron of Leominster Cottage Hospital, Rhymney Workman's Hospital, and the Maachynlleth Cottage Hospital.

### SISTER.

Tolworth Isolation Hospital, Surbiton.—Miss E. L. Wilde has been appointed Sister. She was trained at St. John's Infirmary, Wandsworth, and the Borough Sanatorium, Scarborough, and has been Sister and Assistant Night Superintendent at St. John's Infirmary.

St. Mark's Hospital, City Road, E.C.—Miss Thérèse Röhl has been appointed Theatre Sister. She was trained at Charing Cross Hospital, London, where she was Staff Nurse, also at its Convalescent Home. She has also been on the private nursing staff of the Sussex County Hospital, Brighton, and has worked at the Hospital for Women, Soho Square. Miss Röhl holds the C.M.B. certificate.

Eastern District Hospital, Glasgow.—Miss Isabella Phillips has been appointed Sister. She was trained at the Leith General Hospital and has been Charge Nurse of the Male Infirmary Ward at the Stirling District Asylum and holds the certificate of the Medico-Psychological Association.

### MESSAGE SISTER.

Royal Infirmary, Derby.—Miss Dorothy Clapham has been appointed Message Sister. She was trained at the Cottage Hospital, Bromley, Kent, and the Royal Surrey County Hospital, Guildford.

### NIGHT SISTER.

Royal Waterloo Hospital, Waterloo Road, S.E.—Miss Annie St. George has been appointed Night Sister. She was trained at the Royal Infirmary, Newcastle-on-Tyne, and has been Night Sister at Monkwearmouth and Southwick Hospital, Sunderland, and Sister at the Durham County and Sunderland Eye Infirmary. She has also had experience of private nursing.

### LADY HEALTH VISITOR.

County Borough of Wigan.—Miss B. Crompton has been appointed Lady Health Visitor. She was trained at the Rotunda Hospital, Dublin, in gynaecology and midwifery, and holds the following certificates: Central Midwives Board, Health and Visitor and School Nurse, Royal Sanitary Institute. She is an associate of the Royal Sanitary Institute, and has been in practice as a certified midwife at Bury.

Abertillery Urban District Council, Mon.—Miss Ellen Penty has been appointed Health Visitor and School Nurse. She was trained at Pontefract Hospital, and the Grove Fever Hospital, Tooting, and has held positions at the Lancaster Union Hospital, Medway Infirmary, Chatham, and at Pontypool and Tadcaster Union Hospitals.

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