

owl died, because in the hurry and flurry everyone forgot to feed it. It was embalmed, and with doubtful kindness taken to London, and says her sister, "the only tear its mistress shed through that tremendous week was when I put the little body into her hands. 'Poor little beastie,' she said; 'it was odd how much I loved you.'"

The question of the shortage of nurses becomes every day one of more importance to the community, and we are sure it will never be solved, until the State realises its duty towards the nursing profession and encourages the right type of woman to enter the calling, by defining their qualifications, and providing for their registration.

Having regard to the difficulties experienced in maintaining an adequate number of trained nurses in the workhouse infirmary, the Wrexham Guardians recently appointed a committee to investigate and to submit any recommendations which they might think desirable.

The committee found that the difficulty in obtaining nurses could not at present be attributed to any local cause, the evidence showing that the staff were comfortable, that the food supplied them was good and well cooked, and that they were not overworked. They further found that the training of the probationers was capable of great improvement, and accordingly recommended a more progressive system of training for them.

The annual meeting of the Staffordshire County Nursing Association was held at Tipton recently. The seventh annual report, submitted by Lady Harrowby, stated that during the year it became increasingly evident that some radical alteration in methods was necessary. At the end of the half-year they had a debit balance of nearly £300.

Mrs. Barrow (Superintendent) reported that the development of the work was greatly embarrassed by the want of nurses.

The Stockton Guardians having received the resignation of Nurse Byre after less than six months' service, the statement was made that the reason nurses stayed so short a time at their workhouse hospital was that they had to do the work of probationers. A Guardian claimed that in preventing them taking probationers, the Local Government Board were stultifying the supply of nurses. The Guardians do not apparently realise that it is not fair to women to undertake to train them without facilities for so doing.

The Holland Education Committee, Spalding, find themselves without a school nurse—so have wisely raised the commencing salary to £80—rising by two annual increments of £10 to £100 per annum. One nurse said the cycling would be too much for her. The increase of motor traffic is becoming a very serious matter in the service of rural district nurses.

On the 24th and 25th inst. the Corporation of Glasgow entertained the nurses in the magnificent City Chambers. Each evening the party numbered about 1,500, and included the members of the governing bodies, medical staffs, Matrons and nurses of all the principal hospitals and nursing institutions.

On their arrival the guests were received in the Satinwood Salon by Lord Provost Stevenson, Miss Stevenson, and the Magistrates.

The spectacle was most picturesque, as the nurses wore their dainty and becoming uniforms, and were in the gayest of spirits.

At an interval in the programme the company assembled in the Banqueting Hall, where the Lord Provost extended a welcome to the guests. When the Magistrates learned that he (the Lord Provost) and Miss Stevenson intended entertaining the nurses of the city institutions they decided, he said, that the reception should be a civic one. They were thus the guests of the Corporation that night. He thought the Corporation did well in inviting the nurses there, and he was delighted to see that they had responded in such numbers. When he saw the guests file past he felt that he was taking part in a royal review of troops. But they were troops which were engaged in a battle with death. There was scarcely a household in the country which was not indebted to the nurses in some way or other, and he did not know of any calling or profession which was more noble than theirs.

The Lord Provost and the Corporation were warmly thanked for their hospitality. During the evening, concerts were given by St. Andrews Select Choir, and dancing, which was the real attraction, was carried on with great spirit in the Banqueting Hall, to the accompaniment of Mr. William Napier's orchestra, with Mr. J. B. M'Ewen as master of ceremonies, ably supported by Mr. James Welsh. Everyone had a most happy time, and we feel sure the nurses returned to duty rested and refreshed by the kindness which prompted these delightful parties in their honour.

Why should not the Lord Mayor and Corporation of London follow this laudable example?

[previous page](#)

[next page](#)