

Nurses' Missionary League is from June 13th to 27th at Sandsend, on the Yorkshire coast, near Whitby and Scarborough. It will be housed with Mrs. Kidd at Normanby House, there is good bathing, and the country round affords opportunity for delightful walks and picnics.

Those nurses who desire to join the camp and have not already arranged to do so, should apply for particulars to Miss Richardson, Secretary, Sloane Gardens House, 52, Lower Sloane Street, S.W., or to Miss J. Macfee, the Camp Secretary, Maryon House, Froggnal Lane, Hampstead, N.W. The cost to those sharing a room is 18s. 6d. a week, or 25s. for a single room.

It is interesting to observe that the *British Medical Journal* of May 30th, in a leading article on "Budget Schemes: Nursing," states: "We may with fair confidence predict that another early result of State enterprise in this direction, following upon the revelation of an insufficient supply, will be a substantial increase in the salaries of nurses. Many of our voluntary institutions have hitherto lacked sufficient funds, but however real the causes may have been, no one can regard the miserable pittance which nurses have often hitherto received as either a creditable or proper payment for the services rendered. Another early result also of the establishment of a nursing scheme will be a demand which cannot be resisted for a proper standard of qualification, and for registration, and we may be fairly sure that the Treasury will require some sufficient assurance that those who are employed are competent and suitable to do the work. At the present time there is no general test or standard to which it can easily refer."

The inquest on a patient, aged 89, who died in the Constance Road Workhouse, Camberwell, revealed the fact that an untrained woman had charge at night of a ward of 45 beds. The patient's son, Alfred Wells, stated that his father repeatedly asked to be taken away, as the girls (nurses) were treating him cruelly.

The night nurse, Alice Maude Norris, said there were 45 beds in the ward in which Wells was. She was not trained, and had charge without any help. Wells was continually getting out of bed. He was very "mental," swore, and was most abusive.

At the conclusion of the evidence the Coroner stated that he did not consider that the nurses were to blame, and the jury returned a verdict of "Accidental death," and exonerated the workhouse officials from blame. It is to be regretted that they did not call the attention of

the Local Government Board to the fact that a ward of 45 beds in an institution under its control was in sole charge at night of an untrained woman.

Miss Edna L. Foley, R.N., the very able Superintendent of the Visiting Nurse Association of Chicago, has compiled a list of books helpful to the public health nurse. We are glad to note that under the heading of District Nursing she recommends "District Nursing," by Miss Amy Hughes, and "Outlines of Routine in District Nursing," by Miss M. Loane. The books are divided under the following headings:—District Nursing, Social Service, Problems of Relief, School Nursing, Tuberculosis, Immigration, and History.

The Cancer Society, reports the *American Journal of Nursing*, has recently made special efforts to enlist the co-operation of nurses and nurses' organizations in its work. It is believed that the instruction of nurses as to the essential facts in regard to cancer, particularly in women, will be of special value in leading to a more general dissemination of information in regard to the symptoms, diagnosis, treatment, and prevention of this disease, and the great importance of early recognition and operation. A circular letter was sent to all nurses' training schools, clubs, and settlements in New York City, asking that lectures to nurses on this subject be arranged. Favourable responses were received, and recently the first of a series of meetings and lectures for nurses was held at the Henry Street Settlement. About eighty nurses of the settlement staff were present. Another meeting will be held this month for the benefit of the several hundred visiting nurses of the New York City Department of Health.

These facts were submitted by the Cancer Society to the three national nursing organizations recently meeting in joint convention at St. Louis, namely: The American Nurses' Association, the National League of Nursing Education, and the National Organization for Public Health Nursing; and the official co-operation of the nursing profession throughout the country is hoped for.

LEGAL MATTERS.

At a meeting of the Smethwick magistrates last week, Martha Chilman, a sister, charged with setting fire to the Smethwick and Oldbury Infectious Hospital, protested her innocence, and was discharged. The magistrates decided that incendiarism had been committed, but that there was not enough evidence to send the accused for trial.

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