

A series of lectures has been arranged by the Liverpool branch of the National Union of Trained Nurses, and the one recently given by Dr. Murray Cairns on Japan was much enjoyed by the members. Other lectures anticipated includes one by Miss Thurstan, central and organising secretary of the National Union of Trained Nurses. She will speak on the Red Cross work in Belgium and Russia.

*The Modern Hospital* records a very significant meeting which took place recently at Milwaukee, which it is quite right in describing as "marking a new era in the progress of the great and splendid group of Sisters' Hospitals," when 125 Catholic Sisters from nineteen States, chaplains, and medical officers met to inaugurate the Catholic Hospital Association.

One of the significant discussions brought up concerned the interior service in hospitals. The Sisters took part in the discussion, and one suggested that there ought to be provision made for the training of high-class male nurses, or orderlies, who could take the burden of much of the detail work of the interior, and relieve the nurses of a class of occupation that did not belong to them.

The Rev. Father Charles B. Moulinier, S.J., regent of Marquette University Medical School, Milwaukee, was elected President; Sister Mary Joseph, St. Mary's Hospital, Rochester, Vice-President; Mother Mary Richard, St. Francis' Hospital, Lacrosse, second Vice-President; and Sister Marie, of Misericordia Hospital, Milwaukee, Treasurer.

The first Sisters' hospital meeting was a great success; brilliant papers were read, and excellent discussions ensued. The portraits presented of the hon. officers show splendid types of women.

There is little doubt that the scarcity of nurses in Poor Law institutions is becoming acute. At Lambeth the Guardians, with only twenty instead of thirty nurses on duty, have recognised the increased responsibility of their staff, and have decided that the salaries of the head nurses should be increased by annual increments of £2 to a maximum of £40, and that the salaries of the staff nurses should be increased to a maximum of £35 per annum.

As a result of inquiries addressed to boards of guardians in all parts of England and Wales, the Clerk to the Bermondsey Guardians has been able to compile a statement based upon replies received from 270 parishes. While it

is true that in many instances no insuperable difficulty has arisen, it at once becomes obvious from an examination of the replies that in the majority of parishes the dearth of nurses constitutes a problem which it will require a great expenditure of ingenuity to solve. Over and over again the same tale is told of repeated advertisements failing to induce suitable candidates to apply for vacant positions, although in some parishes, as, for instance, Southampton, it has been the experience of the guardians that by raising the rate of remuneration by about 30 per cent. they have succeeded in obtaining a sufficiency of applicants. In other cases, as, for instance, at Bethnal Green, the difficulty has been overcome by reducing the number of sisters and employing sick attendants to nurse those patients who do not require active medical treatment. In many cases, of course, temporary help has had to be employed, but this is a very costly affair. These are only a few instances of the great difficulties that are being experienced all over the country.

The Matron and Nursing Staff of the Infirmary, Cleveland Street, W., are feeling very sad at the closing of this useful institution, in which many of them have done good, unselfish work for our very poor for many years. The probationers have already been transferred to Highgate Infirmary, and the other officers leave on September 30th. We are glad to hear that the Nurses' League is not to be disbanded, and, after a rest, we hope the talents of Miss Charlotte Leigh, the Matron, may be found full scope elsewhere. Nursing under the Local Government Board is not so popular that it can afford to lose devoted officials such as Miss Leigh has proved herself to be.

### NEW PHTHISIS PAVILION.

The formal opening of the new Phthisis Pavilion at the Isolation Hospital, Chadwell Heath, on Saturday afternoon, 18th inst., was the occasion of a very pleasant gathering. The guests were assembled in the verandah of the new block, where the ceremony took place. The chair was taken by Councillor G. Gunary, J.P., and other members of the Council addressed the meeting. A pleasing feature was the presentation to Miss Barling, the Matron, by her nursing staff, of a beautiful bouquet of yellow and white chrysanthemums tied with long streamers of white ribbon. The Matron, in a few well-chosen words, thanked them for their welcome and unexpected gift. In referring to the many complimentary remarks made

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