

Matrons wore gloves and bonnets in their ward inspections down to the eighteen seventies. We well remember seeing Miss Swift at the London, and Mrs. Wardroper at St. Thomas' with these additions to dignity. We infinitely prefer the toupée, the hoops and the brocade when you are about it.

The beautiful new Children's Hospital in Ladywood Road, Birmingham, has been informally opened, and the little inmates from the old institution in Broad Street are no doubt, with their nurses, delighted to find themselves in fine airy surroundings. The hospital has been erected as a memorial to the late King Edward VII, and when complete it is intended that the new Children's Hospital shall be one of the best appointed and equipped institutions of its kind in the kingdom. The sum of £20,000 is still required to complete the £60,000 to be expended.

The Coroner (Dr. Waldo) of the Southwark Court said recently that he had held an increasing number of inquests, during the last few months, on the bodies of children put out to nurse, whose fathers were serving at the Front and whose mothers were at work.

A jury of the same Court has expressed the opinion that the Ministry of Munitions, and the Board of Education, should be asked to assist health authorities in the establishment of an adequate supply of day nurseries and crèches, in the neighbourhood of munition factories, for the care of babies and young children, to be kept day by day as well as by night under the care of trained nurses at a fixed charge.

The address on "Professional Development and Organization" delivered in November last to the Conference of the National Union of Trained Nurses in London, and the Scottish Nurses' Association in Glasgow, by the Honble. Albinia Brodrick, is now published in pamphlet form, and should be widely read and distributed. Those who wish to place the present situation in the nursing profession before their friends could not do better than enclose one of the pamphlets in their letters. The price is 2d., or 6s. for 50, and it may be procured from the N.U.T.N., 46, Marsham Street, S.W. 1; the Scottish Nurses' Association, 103, Bath Street, Glasgow; and the Irish Nurses' Association, 34, St. Stephen's Green, Dublin.

The Honble. Albinia Brodrick was placed under arrest at her home in Caherdaniel, Co. Kerry, prior to undergoing two months' im-

prisonment, imposed upon her at the local petty sessions six weeks ago, for refusing to stamp her estate servants' insurance cards.

After serving two and a half days' imprisonment in Cork Gaol she has been released. The reason given for this step is that the committal warrant was bad. Miss Brodrick is now considering what action may be taken for wrongful arrest.

We may be certain that Miss Brodrick is making a stand for conscience sake, and will submit to no injustice without protest.

A doctor states in the press that it is the unchaste "free lance girl," and not the habitual prostitute, who is largely responsible for the spread of venereal disease at the present time. With this the Rev. C. H. Hamilton, Chairman, Portsmouth Church Council for Prevention and Rescue Work, agrees—and he thinks it may be of interest and encouragement to other towns to know what is being done in this connection at Portsmouth. "Our corporation," he says, "in Portsmouth was the first in England to avail itself of the Local Government Board permission to open clinics for the free treatment of venereal diseases. Our Church Council for Preventive and Rescue Work, recognizing the necessity of having moral as well as medical treatment, immediately offered to furnish a nursing home for female patients attending the clinic, if the Local Government Board would help with the maintenance; the Local Government Board referred the matter to our corporation, advising the acceptance of our Church Council's offer, and promising to pay 75 per cent. of any contribution they might make towards maintenance. After conference between the Health Committee and our Church Council, a scheme was submitted to, and passed by, the corporation; accepting the offer of the nursing home, and promising to pay four-fifths of the cost of maintenance. The nursing home has been open about three months; it is superintended by a trained nurse, who is an earnest Churchwoman, and it is already doing excellent work. The patients attend the clinic, and receive a certain amount of treatment in the home, which is out of the town. So far the patients are all of the kind described by your correspondent as the most dangerous to the community.

"The recognition by a State Department and a borough council of the necessity of moral as well as medical treatment in this matter is an immense gain, and should go far if it is repeated up and down the country to produce permanent results for the national welfare."

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