

being left on duty. The number of hours was said to be the greatest difficulty, as it happened not infrequently that men and women were kept on duty from 6 a.m. to 10 p.m., with 1½ hours off for meals.

No complaint was made against the officials of the asylums; the whole of the workers' troubles were with the Board.

The Lancashire Asylums Board met in Committee last week at the County Offices, Preston, when Mr. Shaw, General Secretary of the National Union of Asylum Workers, was called in, and stated that the minimum on which his members would return to their duties was the acceptance by the Board of arbitration.

The Chairman, Sir Norval W. Helme, M.P., said that until the 9th of August, when the letter from the Union was received, the Board was not aware of any such feeling as unfortunately existed and had been developing amongst the members of the Union.

The Board had met in Committee, and considered the situation, and having a strong confidence in their own case, were prepared to ask the Board to formally approve a resolution accepting arbitration.

Replying to questions, Mr. Shaw said he was prepared, as far as it was possible for him to do so, to pledge his members to abide by the decision of the arbitrator and to resume their duties at once.

The Board then passed a resolution agreeing to the application of the National Union of Asylum Workers being referred to arbitration, the Ministry of Labour to be requested to appoint an arbitrator.

## MEDALS FOR NURSES.

### BRADFORD ROYAL INFIRMARY.

On Wednesday, September 11th, the annual interesting occasion of the presentation of medals to successful nurses took place. The Chairman, Mr. George Priestman, gave a short account of the year's work of the Nurse Training School, and said that it was a matter for congratulation that, despite many difficulties, the standard of training had been kept up and the necessary lectures had been given to qualify for the medals.

To obtain the gold medal, a first class must be obtained in each subject, with a percentage of at least 80 for the total number of marks gained. The silver medal is awarded to the candidate who obtains second highest marks. Nurse Kathleen Digney is this year's gold medallist, and Nurse Margaret Waterston was awarded the silver medal.

The Matron, Miss Davies, pointed out that since the re-organisation of the training in 1913 the gold

medal had been awarded each year. She considered this very creditable with regard to the circumstances under which the nurses worked at present, and the small amount of time available for study. The best thanks of the nursing staff were due to Dr. West Watson for the able lectures he had given, in spite of the pressure of his professional work.

The Chairman then called upon Alderman Moorhouse to present the medals. Several nurses who had completed their training were also awarded certificates of merit.

### ROLL OF HONOUR.

Louisa Charlotte Chamberlain, R.N.N.S.R., accidentally killed at sea, August 10th, 1918. Sister Chamberlain was trained at Bradford Royal Infirmary, where she was doing Sister's duty when called up to join the Naval Nursing Reserve in August, 1914.

## OUTSIDE THE GATES.

### THE NATIONAL COUNCIL OF WOMEN OF GREAT BRITAIN AND IRELAND.

The Annual Meeting of the National Council of Women of Great Britain and Ireland will be held in Harrogate on October 8th, 9th and 10th, at 10 a.m. and 2.30 p.m., when the Annual Report and Annual Statement of Accounts will be presented, and the Report of the Committee for the Revision of the Constitution. From this report, which has been circulated, we gather that it is proposed that the National Union of Women Workers shall become the National Council of Women of Great Britain and Ireland, and that the Governing Body shall be called the Representative Council of Women.

This Council is to meet annually to receive reports, transact business, and elect the Executive Committee. It is, however, proposed that the Resolutions for the Representative Council shall first be submitted to the Executive, which Committee "shall group the resolutions according to subjects, and shall select or draw up one resolution from each group." If the Governing Body may not discuss what resolutions it chooses without the permission of the Executive it is difficult to understand wherein government consists.

The subjects dealt with by Resolutions at Harrogate will be "Hostels for Mothers and Babies," "Solicitation Laws and the Equal Moral Standard," "Trade Unions," "Equal Pay for Equal Work," "Women on Government Committees," and "Laws of Naturalisation."

## BOOK OF THE WEEK.

### THE WEDDING GOWN OF "OLE MISS."\*

This charming romance of Virginia makes a very wide appeal to the lovers of fiction, and is quite one of the most popular books of the hour.

\* By Gertrude Griffiths. Skeffington & Son, Ltd., Southampton Street, Strand, W.C. 2. Price 6s.

[previous page](#)

[next page](#)