

All accounts will be kept separately from the Hospital, and it is their earnest wish that the great traditions of the past of St. John's House shall be maintained.

The Committee of Management of Mount Vernon Hospital has unanimously decided to grant a further increase in the salaries of the nursing staff of the institution. Sisters now receive an annual increase until a maximum of £75 per annum is reached, while probationer nurses receive £20 for their first, £25 for their second, and £30 for their third year's service. The wages of the domestic staff are also increased in amounts varying with periods of service.

Recognition of the value of their skilled work will have an enormous effect in the general uplift of professional nursing. Poverty has a cramping influence, especially on the evolution of human mentality, and trained nursing demands all the mental stimulus it can get.

We are pleased to note that Albert Edward Holdings, described as a porter, who concealed himself in the shrubs in the front garden of the Nurses' Home attached to the Metropolitan Hospital, was convicted at the North London Police Court "for unlawfully behaving as a night walker and eavesdropper," under the old common law, and ordered to find one surety of £25 for his good behaviour for 12 months, or, in default, go to prison for a month.

It was stated that there had been many complaints from the nurses of the conduct of a man outside the bedroom windows. The windows were always kept open, but curtains were drawn. It was, however, possible for a person outside to draw aside a curtain. On several occasions as a nurse was getting into bed she had been startled by seeing a face between the folds of the curtains.

Certainly a very alarming experience. We wonder, however, that the nurses did not take the law into their own hands, and give this "night walker and eavesdropper" a salutary lesson he would not be likely to forget in a hurry.

Miss Fay Compton, a member of the Committee of the "Nation's Fund for Nurses," sued the *News of the World* for libel in the King's Bench last week. The cause of the action was a photo published in connection with a report of the Billie Carleton inquest, headed, "West End Dope Parties."

Miss Fay Compton, said her counsel, happened to be a friend of Miss Billie Carleton, and on the last night of the deceased girl's life

she went to the Victory Ball with her at the Albert Hall, and left there with her and other people. The *News of the World*, in giving publicity to the tragedy, had published photographs of Lionel Herbert Belcher, Miss Billie Carleton, and Miss Fay Compton on the same page, and as the latter had nothing to do with the Dope Parties, this gave an injurious impression to the public.

The case was withdrawn on the newspaper firm apologising and agreeing to pay 100 guineas to the Edward Compton Theatrical Girls' Fund. We trained nurses are thankful this solatium was not added to the profits on the Victory Ball, and handed over in support of that obnoxious war charity, "The Nation's Fund for Nurses."

Two sums of £1,000 in commemoration of golden weddings have been received by the Royal Infirmary, Halifax, during the past year, and also another sum of money from the family of the late Dr. T. H. Hunt to form the nucleus of a fund for the benefit of the nurses of the institution. Dr. Hunt died very suddenly, and this prevented him from making the necessary provision in his will, but his wife knew the project lay near to his heart, and has given effect to his wishes. The proceeds of the fund, and any additions which may be forthcoming, will be used to help nurses in old age or sickness, or to provide holidays for them.

The sisters and nurses of the Glasgow Royal Infirmary held a fancy dress dance in the Nurses' Home on January 28th. In the course of the evening Miss Melrose, the Matron, on behalf of the Sisters and nurses, presented Miss M'Kenzie, one of the assistant matrons, with a gold wristlet watch in appreciation of her services and as interim matron during the absence through illness of Miss Melrose.

At a meeting held, by permission of Lady Arnott, O.B.E. (Chairman), at 12, Merrion Square, Dublin, with the object of making arrangements for a dramatic performance at the Gaiety Theatre on March 4th, in aid of Mercer's Hospital Linen Guild, the Hon. Mrs. de Courcy Wheeler read a letter she had received from the Queen's private secretary, as follows:—

"I am directed by H.R.H. Princess Mary to send you a small gift, to be sold at the charity matinee you are holding at the Gaiety Theatre in aid of the funds of Mercer's Hospital."

Mrs. Wheeler also announced she had received from Admiral Beatty a signed photograph of himself, on the deck of his flagship.

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