

ganisation in some of these institutions. In one, where the three-shift eight-hour day has been tried, it has signally failed, and whether the arrangement of giving the attendants two whole days off a week is satisfactory remains to be seen. What are these young people to do with so much unoccupied time on their hands? Certainly some system of occupying part of the time usefully must sooner or later be found—preferably of an educational character.

Young girls of 18 years of age, many of them with very inadequate education, are being admitted into these mental hospitals. The salary of six pounds a month and bonus—which the rate-payers have to provide—is far in excess of any sum they have hitherto handled, and must inculcate habits of extravagance unless they are taught the value of money and how to save.

We hear that in the vicinity of some large asylums the frivolous conduct of young nurses, off duty whole days at a time, is already being brought to the notice of the authorities, but that these "ins and outs" brook little restraint by the matron, whose position is subordinate, and often intolerable, what with ignorant male committees and autocratic medical superintendents.

What is urgently required is, that this very important branch of nursing, needing the highest educational standard and womanly qualities throughout the personnel, should receive far more encouragement in the future than it has received in the past. Mental nursing is work which should satisfy the intelligence of educated women of the highest type, and now that the hours are short, and the pay very good, some means should be taken to bring the right women in sufficient numbers to the succour of patients so sadly afflicted.

We deeply regret to learn that, for the present, the publication of the *Nursing Journal of India*, which is the official organ of the organised Associations of Superintendents and Nurses of India, is to be discontinued, owing to the fact that an Editor cannot be found as a substitute for Nurse Bonsor, whose military duties now take all her time. It is proposed to keep the journal fund in the hands of the manager, Miss Thacker, Cama Hospital, Bombay, in the hope of restarting the journal

should an Editor be found from among members returning from leave at home.

The *Nursing Journal of India* is the official organ in that Empire of the International Council of Nurses, and just as our internationalism is again about to take on its old activities it is a thousand pities that the opinion of the nurses of India should be silenced. Many nurses subscribe for THE BRITISH JOURNAL OF NURSING in India, and we draw the attention of their colleagues to the fact that all members of the Trained Nurses' Association and of the Association of Nursing Superintendents of India, are eligible for our special rate of subscription: 9s., instead of 13s. 4d., for members of self-governing professional organisations of nurses. The Editor of this Journal will also be very pleased to insert any news or official announcements which the officials of the nurses' organisations of India may desire to insert in the *B.J.N.*

Miss Jean Gunn, Lady Superintendent of the Toronto General Hospital, has been unanimously elected President of the Canadian National Association of Trained Nurses.

The *Canadian Nurse* reports that a section for Public Health Nurses is to be formed in the National Association.

The protracted trial of Quien at Paris, supposed to have betrayed Edith Cavell to the Germans, has ended at last. The accused was found guilty of intelligence with the enemy (treason), and of swindling, and was sentenced to be shot. Six out of the seven judges, however, recommended him to mercy. We wonder why!

## POWER PRODUCTION AND THE GAS ENGINE.

The use of gas for the purpose of power production is the subject of the current issue of "A Thousand and One Uses for Gas," the monthly illustrated publication of the British Commercial Gas Association of 47, Victoria Street, S.W. 1, and all interested in this important matter should find the number a mine of useful information as to comparative costs, efficiency, and all the other details which determine choice as between the gas engine and its competitors. Testimonials from satisfied users are included, and these speak very highly indeed of gas as an agent for power production. A valuable section shows the considerable economy which can be effected by installing a gas engine for the generation of electricity.

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