

fine institution, and we regret to note from the annual report that it has a deficit of £18,000 on last year's expenditure, which should not be in so wealthy a city.

The report states that owing to the continued shortage of probationers the number of the Nurses has been much below the authorised number throughout the year, and this has thrown a great strain upon the existing nursing staff, to whom the Board wish to express their gratitude for the way in which they have met the extra work thrown upon them. With the fine clinical material admitted to the General, Birmingham, probationers have every facility for the best practical experience in the wards, and there should not be a shortage, but we hear on all sides that the type of girl who makes the best nurse is not applying for training, even in our best Nursing Schools, in sufficient numbers.

Once the General Nursing Council is at work we should like to see a campaign commenced throughout the country, conducted by women who know and love their profession—its history and its future possibilities—addressed to young womanhood, inviting them to form and build up the profession of the future. A sort of Nursing Revival, such as swept over the country in the seventies and eighties. Our girls are as good as ever they were. We must make them realise that Nursing is fine work—including the nursing of women and children!

Sister D. M. Davies, the first nurse to receive the Gold Medal now offered annually by the Hospital, has, the report states, "been awarded a Scholarship by the Royal College of Nursing." We presume the College of Nursing, Ltd., is the organization referred to. No doubt Mr. T. Ratcliffe, the Chairman, has bestowed the prefix "Royal" upon the College Company in error. To give such honourable distinction used to be the prerogative of the Sovereign; but we live in democratic days!

The position to which Miss Edith Haslam has been appointed in Newfoundland, as notified in our Appointments column, is a pioneer and interesting one under the Government. She will be stationed, in the first instance, at St. John's, where the first infant welfare centre will be opened, and will be responsible for organising the health visiting throughout the island, where there are at present one doctor and three community nurses. Miss Haslam has excellent qualifications for the position, and we wish her all success in her interesting sphere of work.

PADDINGTON AND ST. MARYLEBONE DISTRICT NURSING ASSOCIATION.

The Annual Meeting of the Paddington and St. Marylebone District Nursing Association (affiliated to Queen Victoria's Jubilee Institute), held on Wednesday, March 24th, in the Lecture Hall, St. James' Church, Westbourne Terrace, Paddington, was of particular interest and cordiality, as not only subscribers, but a number of the patients were present.

The Vicar of the parish, the Rev. E. N. Sharpe, was in the chair, and moved the adoption of the Report. Mrs. Mylne, who seconded, stated that the Association was adopting a system to relieve people of small means, and they hoped to supply nurses to such persons at three shillings an hour. They were also trying to raise a sum of money to buy a new Home, and money for this purpose, and furniture to equip the Home would be gratefully received. The Report was adopted by a show of hands.

Mr. Pett Ridge moved a resolution that the meeting asked for support for the nursing of the sick poor in both boroughs, and for the expenses of the new Home. The speaker remarked on the changing conditions and circumstances of many people of recent years, the purest cockney was heard in first-class carriages, and one looked out of one's back windows on to cases suitable for assistance by the Association. The new poor were not vociferous, they had to be searched for and dealt with carefully by gentle cross-examination and tact. Incidentally he remarked that if tact were put up for sale, only those who already possessed it would make a bid for it.

Dr. Porter, Medical Officer of Health for Marylebone, spoke in high terms of the work done by the Superintendent, Miss S. Marsters, and the nurses.

Dr. Raymond Dudfield, Medical Officer of Health for Paddington, said the work of the nurses of the Association relieved the hospitals, and was of the greatest public benefit. It resulted in the saving of life, and benefited the nation as a whole. There were bound to be considerable changes when the duties of Boards of Guardians were handed over to the Local Sanitary Authorities (the Borough Councils), and the work of the District Nurses would be extended.

The Rev. Dehane Small moved a vote of thanks to the Superintendent and nurses. Much had been said of their courtesy; he would like to bear testimony to their efficiency, and re-

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