

the industrial world made better educated women less anxious to enter a profession, and the nursing profession not having been very well paid, or much considered in the past, was now suffering from lack of candidates willing to join as nurses. The Council gratefully acknowledged the grant of £3,000 from the British Red Cross Association.

In our opinion it is quite indefensible to permit midwives to assume the responsibility of school and tuberculosis nurses. The majority are totally unqualified for this important work.

We are glad to hear there is a shortage of women willing to assume the responsibility of undertaking nursing duties for which they have not been efficiently trained.

We regret to hear that the Kingston Guardians have felt compelled to call for the resignation of the Matron for using their motor ambulance, without leave, to go to the "Derby," as she has been working very hard since her appointment in February last. Nevertheless, the use of this ambulance, which is reported to have been required for the sick, when not available, was a very serious offence, which could not be overlooked by the Board.

The following "ad." is from the *Daily Mail*, July 3rd:—

WANTED for women's college in Oxford, a reliable woman to undertake parlour and portress work; one with some knowledge of nursing preferred; age 30-45; wages to be arranged.—Apply—

We cull the following from the *Morning Post*:—

WANTED, V.A.D.'S and ex-V.A.D.'s to undertake Entire NURSING and DOMESTIC DUTIES in Sanatorium; salaries £30-£60, according to position occupied.—Apply—

Is it any wonder that probationers are at a premium?

For a Home for the nursing staff of the East Sussex Hospital, Nos. 11 and 13, Holmesdale Gardens, Hastings, have been made into one house, with only the garden wall dividing it from the site of the new hospital. About £500 has been spent in furnishing, and in this most efficient and economical way part of the hospital rebuilding scheme has been accomplished. There is accommodation for forty nurses and a domestic staff, the bedrooms numbering twenty-five with four bathrooms.

Visitors found comfort and brightness everywhere, and there is only the regret that it is not possible to give each nurse her own bedroom. Sisters only enjoy this privilege.

The premises, Nos. 29 and 31, St. Matthew's Parade, Northampton, formerly a school, have,

we hear, been admirably adapted for an up-to-date nursing home, which will compare favourably with any private nursing home in London or the provinces. The home is furnished throughout in a most tasteful style, and nothing has been forgotten which would add to the comfort and welfare of the patients. One of the features is a thoroughly equipped operating theatre.

Most of the doctors practising in this district were present at the recent opening, and the arrangements and conditions received their unqualified approval. _____

The nursing staff is an exceptionally capable one. The Lady Superintendent, Miss W. Lankester, is a lady of very great experience, who has earned the golden opinion of everyone with whom she has come into contact during the few months she has been here superintending the equipment of the home. This institution will undoubtedly meet a great need in the district, as people find it more and more impossible to be really ill at home owing to lack of domestic service.

The National Asylum Workers' Union took further steps to improve the position of its members at its sixth annual conference, held recently at Durham. It was reported that during the year the membership had increased from 13,905 to 17,720. The contribution was increased 100 per cent. to strengthen the funds of the Union.

A new wage scale for female nurses was drawn up as follows, with the addition of bonus and proficiency pay:—

Metropolitan: minimum, £3 5s. per week; maximum, £3 15s. per week. Industrial areas: minimum, £3 per week; maximum, £3 10s. per week. Rural areas: minimum, £2 15s. per week; maximum, £3 5s. per week.

It was resolved to press for the 48-hour week in all mental hospitals.

Mr. J. E. Swan, M.P. for Barnard Castle, expressed the hope that ere long all mental institutions, hospitals and infirmaries would be entirely controlled by the State, and financed and equipped by a Ministry of Health.

Birmingham was selected for next year's conference. _____

The impracticability of instituting an eight-hours' day for nurses in the Dublin hospitals at short notice was under consideration recently by the Dublin Corporation, when Alderman McWalter moved, and it was agreed, that the decision of the Council, making an eight-hours' day for nurses in the City hospitals a condition precedent to the payment of grants from the Council, be postponed for six months.

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