

that £55 a year for the nurses was extremely low, when the Corporation paid its very lowest men nearly £200, and Mrs. Webber, referring to the question of nurses' salaries, said remarks were made in the Council Chamber to the effect that wages should be high for scavengers because the work was extremely insanitary. That work was in the open air, whereas the nurses were expected to go into very considerable and grave risks in very stuffy rooms, where there was no fresh air, and she thought they owed the nurses a very great debt. All honour was due to them that they never shirked their risks, which were, she thought, considerably graver than those run by the scavengers in the streets.

The Association is evidently doing indispensable work, to judge from the following statement:—The general cases nursed during the year number 725, and to these 12,304 visits have been paid. The midwifery cases number 41 and the visits 1,212. The parish cases were 27, and the visits 1,641. These visits do not include the work done at the Friendly Societies' Dispensary, City Road, where a nurse attends two hours a day, nor the periodical visits paid to the Albert Memorial and Storey's Almshouses.

In reference to the proposal discussed at the Sheffield Insurance Committee regarding the establishment of a nursing service for insured persons on the lines of the schemes for Manchester and Birmingham, Approved Societies in Sheffield are being asked their opinion and whether they would be willing to co-operate with the Committee.

Dr. Forbes intimated that the approved societies were waiting for the result of their audits before they would decide to contribute to the scheme. The Special Sub-Committee which had considered the matter was unanimous in their belief that it would be a good thing if a nursing scheme could be established in the city. It could be put into operation economically by extending the excellent district nursing now in existence. They would want about twelve more nurses, and the whole of Sheffield could be adequately covered with an average of £200 per nurse. It was all a question of money. Dr. Forbes is presenting a detailed report at the next meeting.

What is the difference between a "certificated" and a "duly qualified" nurse, as defined by the Scottish Board of Health? There appeared to be some mystification on the matter when at a recent meeting of the Arbroath and

St. Vigean's Poorhouse Committee it was announced that the newly appointed matron had entered upon her duties; and it was stated that her name was on the registered list of nurses, but the Board of Health did not issue individual certificates. Once the State Registration scheme is in working order, such ambiguity will not puzzle conscientious Councillors.

The Sale of Work in Glasgow in furtherance of the Nurses' Memorial to King Edward the VII will take place at the Victoria Infirmary on April 30th. Will our readers note the date?

Under the Hospitals and Charitable Institutions Amendment Act, New Zealand, the words "Charitable Aid" have been abolished from the designation of the Boards. It is interesting to note that provision is made for the establishment of bursaries for nursing and massage students. We learn from the *New Zealand Journal of Health and Hospitals* that among the new clauses is one making it the duty of the Board to appoint such number of medical practitioners, nurses and midwives as the Director-General of Health may deem necessary throughout the district, thus giving him power to call upon Boards who are neglecting the more remote parts of their districts to do their duty in this respect. The vexed question of nurses' hours has been dealt with by the passing of a clause giving power to make regulations for the protection of the interests, and the promotion of the welfare, of nurses engaged in public hospitals.

INTERNATIONAL INTERCOURSE.

A very pleasant and informal gathering took place at 431, Oxford Street, W., the Headquarters of the International Council of Nurses, on Tuesday afternoon, when the guests of honour of Mrs. Bedford Fenwick, Hon. President, were Miss Jean Browne (Canada), and Miss Charlotte M. Simon and Miss Dorothy Ledyard (U.S.A.). These ladies are members of the group of International Nursing Students taking the Public Health Course at King's College for Women, and they are going shortly to France to see something of the very interesting work carried on by Mrs. Breckinridge under the American Committee for the Devastated Regions. We foresee for them an instructive time.

Miss A. E. Hulme, Hon. Secretary of the Matrons' Council, just back from Copenhagen, where she has been doing canteen work for British sailors, and Councillor Beatrice Kent, just returned from Italy, were also present.

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