

All interested in the Home will be glad to learn that nearly £120,000 are in hand, and that the interest which has already accrued therefrom has paid the cost of the appeal and the whole of the expenditure upon the stone-laying ceremony, in which 2,000 persons took part.

Queen Alexandra and Princess Victoria paid a surprise visit to the West Norfolk and Lynn Hospital at Lynn on March 9th, and remained for an hour. The main object of Queen Alexandra's visit appeared to be to see a patient named Hilda Howell, aged 19, a domestic in the employ of one of the tenants on the Royal estate at Sherbourne, who had been badly burnt.

The Queen and the Princess were received by Miss Helen Swain, who conducted them to the women's ward, which had Miss Howell as one of its patients. Queen Alexandra spent several minutes in conversation with Miss Howell, and also chatted with all the other patients in the ward in a kind and sympathetic manner, asking them about their ailments and injuries.

Queen Alexandra brought with her a large box of chocolates, which she handed round. She also paid a visit to the men's ward and chatted with the patients there. The Queen remarked that the wards looked quite bright and cheerful. The Royal visit became known to a large number of school children, and large crowds of them gathered at the Hospital gates and gave Queen Alexandra and the Princess a rousing cheer as they took their departure, which brought forth smiling acknowledgments from the Royal ladies.

The Annual Report of the Nurses' Co-operation, 22, Langham Street, Portland Place, W., just published, defines clearly for the first time the relative positions of the nurses and the members of the Co-operation in the following paragraph:—

"Nurses who can be engaged through the agency of the Co-operation are spoken of as being 'on the staff.' Their number is now 447. They are *not* Members of the Co-operation, owing to the rule that no Member may derive any profit from the Co-operation."

We have frequently in the past pointed out to the nurses on the staff of the Co-operation that they were not "members," but, so far as we are aware, it is the first time it has been officially stated in plain terms in their Report. They are the servants of the Committee, and can, and have been dismissed without appeal. The total number of nurses now on the Roll is 447, 410 being on the General Staff, and 37 Asylum-trained nurses who take mental cases only.

The Report states that the nurses have not been kept so busily engaged during the last six months, probably owing partly to the general good health of the community, and partly owing to the altered circumstances of many who now find themselves unable to afford the expense of a private nurse.

In view of these changes the Committee, during the past year, have advertised in the daily papers "that to meet the present difficulty respecting board and residence in patients' houses, &c., the Nurses' Co-operation now supply, in addition to their regular staff, fully trained Nurses for daily visiting."

The manner in which the nurses themselves supported the "Members of the Co-operation" in their autocratic dismissal, without cause, of three of their colleagues who refused to resign, has marked their approval of the same treatment for themselves should occasion arise.

No allusion to the discreditable treatment of the ladies in question is made in the report. No doubt the Committee would have found it very difficult to explain their high-handed methods.

We learn that the North London Nursing Association, 413, Holloway Road, N.7, has had a record year, and the number of new cases has been 300 more than in any previous year. The total number of new cases during the year was 2,242; the cases nursed 2,453; cases discharged 2,280; and visits paid 41,313. The district covered includes all of North London.

At Leeds Assizes, on Monday, sentence of eighteen months' imprisonment with hard labour was passed on Edward Wilcock, of Manchester, a male nurse, found guilty of the manslaughter of Canon Banham, Vicar of Worsborough Dale, near Barnsley, on whom he was in attendance. It was alleged that the man had been drinking, and that he ill-treated the Canon, who was 88 years of age, so that he died from exhaustion following the injuries he received.

For some months past, writes the Dublin correspondent of the *Lancet*, the curfew hours in Dublin have been from 10 p.m. to 5 a.m. Unfortunately, a number of attacks on parties of military or police occurred recently in the streets between dusk and curfew, and after giving warning that if such attacks did not cease curfew hours would be extended, the military authorities have ordered that in future curfew shall begin at 9 p.m. instead of 10 p.m. As heretofore medical practitioners, clergymen and nurses will be granted permits to be abroad on urgent professional business.

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