

vinced persons were retained after a history of alcoholism, or accident, when they were quite sane and needed no further detention. Once we appeared in Court to testify to the complete recovery from alcoholism of a lady well known to us, when her will was contested by greedy relatives, who had agreed to her internment in an asylum for ten years after complete recovery.

We won our case.

On another occasion we demanded the release of a relative who had had a concussion of the brain, and who, after a fortnight's unjustifiable detention in an asylum, became with convalescence absolutely normal. We gave the director of this institution the choice of releasing the patient or of our appealing to the Home Office. Here, again, we had the pleasure of seeing the patient removed to his own home, and of providing a trained nurse, who, with the help of his daughter, soon nursed him back to complete health. Delirium after concussion there had been (he was knocked down in the street by a cab), but of dementia not a sign.

After these exploits we found ourselves one day during the war at tea at the Red Cross Centre in Cavendish Square, when a pretty woman rushed up to us and exclaimed, "Are you the lady who rescues sane patients from private asylums? I have just escaped; do let me tell you my story." She did. She had suffered from nerve strain—had been what she called "run in"; and the witty manner in which she described her treatment and method of escape spoke worlds for her "recovery." What we need are many more "borderland" publicly managed wards or institutions, where such cases would receive skilled treatment without "certification," and where association with really insane persons would be impossible.

Let us hope one step in this direction will be taken when the Syllabus of Training for Mental Nurses has been approved and put into practice by the General Nursing Councils in the near future. The part played in the recovery of the mentally unbalanced by highly skilled psychological nursing is hardly yet sufficiently appreciated, although the Medico-Psychological Association has been working along these lines for many years, and with ever-increasing success.

Why do the children of the poor suffer more from heart disease than the children of the rich? This was a question put in the course

of a lecture recently by Dr. G. Arbour Stephens to the Swansea and South Wales branch of the College of Nursing.

Dr. Stephens emphasised the need of establishing a central body for the control of the training and testing of all nurses in the Principality. At present, he said, some were trained in acute cases, others in chronic cases, and others in fever and in mental work, whereas a nurse should have the opportunity of nursing all classes of patients before being tested for her qualifying certificate. Especially with regard to the supply of midwives it was very necessary that there should be a Welsh Midwives Board, members of which could examine the nurses in their own Welsh language. At present a lot of capable women were not allowed to practise because they could not answer the examination questions put to them in English. If a Welsh National School for Medical Students, why not one for nurses and midwives?

Happily for Welsh nurses, Wales is combined with England in the Nurses' Registration Act of 1919, and the General Nursing Council for England and Wales set up by the Act is the central body authorised by Parliament to define and test the training of nurses in the Principality. Welsh nurses certainly would not gain in professional prestige if controlled by a local body in Wales instead of associated with English nurses under the influential General Nursing Council for England and Wales. Scottish and Irish nurses would infinitely have preferred association with their English and Welsh colleagues through a United Kingdom's Nurses' Registration Act instead of through separate Acts.

A fortnight ago a large and interesting gathering took place in the Scottish Nurses' Club, 205, Bath Street, Glasgow, the occasion being the reception held by the Marchioness of Ailsa, President of the Club, Lady Dunlop and the Management Committee to welcome Miss Steuart Donaldson, Matron of the Glasgow Royal Infirmary. Invitations were sent to all the Matrons, Superintendents, and heads of Hospitals, Homes, and Institutions in and around Glasgow, and judging by the large number present the occasion was a popular event. Miss Donaldson had an opportunity of meeting many of the ladies she will be coming in touch with professionally in her work, and her welcome was a warm and hearty one. Tea, with delightful home-made cakes, was partaken

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