

## EXAMINATIONS.

## METROPOLITAN ASYLUMS BOARD.

## INFECTIOUS HOSPITALS DEPARTMENT.

The result of the Certificate Examination of Nurses under the Metropolitan Asylums Board, held in October last, is as follows:—

	Staff Sisters.	Nurses.	Probationers.	Assistant Nurses.	Total.
Entered ..	7	45	118	19	186
Passed ..	6	35	95	15	151
Failed ..	1	10	20	4	35

The Medals awarded by the Board to the Probationers gaining the first three places in this examination were won by the following nurses:—

*Gold Medal*—Probationer I. C. F. Hungerford, North Western Fever Hospital.

*Silver Medal*—Probationer J. Robinson, South Western Fever Hospital.

*Bronze Medal*—Probationer W. A. Buxton, North Eastern Fever Hospital.

## FEVER NURSES ASSOCIATION.

The following is the list of successful candidates at the recent examination of the Fever Nurses' Association:—

*Ladywell Sanatorium*.—Mary C. Hogg.

*Walthamstow Sanatorium*.—M. C. Farmer, A. M. Goodbody, B. G. Body.

*Merthyr Tydfil Isolation Hospital*.—E. M. Morgan, L. A. Vaughan, V. I. Wilson, G. M. Yeo.

*Brighton Sanatorium*.—H. Wood, V. W. Rowan.

*Croydon Borough Hospital*.—C. M. Beattie, S. E. Conroy, D. I. Passby, C. E. Wright.

*Derby Isolation Hospital*.—E. E. Crawford, E. Garland, R. Moyle.

*Ilford Isolation Hospital*.—A. A. Heppenstall, B. Meredith, G. Vickers.

*Leicester Isolation Hospital*.—G. Hall, E. A. Lewis, E. Peach.

*Lodge Moor Hospital, Sheffield*.—A. Arrand, A. Roe, S. Randall, E. C. Walls, I. M. E. Walton, V. M. Wilson.

*Leeds City Hospitals*.—C. Jones, R. McQuilkin.

*Sunderland Sanatorium*.—D. Chapman, M. Smith, G. Stenhouse, M. J. Waters.

*Wimbledon Isolation Hospital*.—F. L. Ashford, E. M. Jenkins.

*Plymouth Borough Hospital*.—D. E. Sennett.

*Newcastle-upon-Tyne Infectious Hospital*.—J. Bailey, A. Caffery, E. D. Coulson, A. B. Davidson, J. Davison, L. Farthing, E. V. Richardson, I. Taylor, E. M. Wilson.

*Plaistow Fever Hospital*.—O. M. Abel, M. M. Aitchison, D. Browne, I. M. Barnes, R. E. Dennett, D. A. Emington, C. F. Harvey, B. Irvine, H. King, K. Smith.

## ROYAL SOUTHERN HOSPITAL, LIVERPOOL.

## TO THE NURSES.

A Half-mask Party will be given to the Nursing Staff of the Royal Southern Hospital, Liverpool, on New Year's Day, commencing at 7 p.m.

Past members of the Staff are all invited.

If necessary, accommodation can be provided for the night, if application be made to Miss Bagnall, the Matron.

## SEED POTATOES.

BY NORA C. USHER.

The new parish nurse found it uphill work. Nothing she said or did was right. If she spent a few minutes chatting with a depressed patient, she was a gossip; if she hurried to get through her round, she was unsympathetic; when she insisted on idle patients getting up and dressing, she was a hard-hearted monster; when she let the weakly ones rest, she was indifferent. Finding it impossible to give satisfaction, she turned a deaf ear to unkind chatter, and contented herself with doing her duty in the sight of God and the doctor.

Nurse Allison had a hard life. It took her all her time to make ends meet. She was a widow with two small children; an invalid mother also depended upon her. Her predecessor had been a single woman with small private means; she had given a good deal to the poorer patients. Nurse Allison could give nothing; this roused resentment in some quarters, and led to the affair of Dicky Rawlins and the seed potatoes.

The case was this. Dicky Rawlins was a half-witted man who lived alone in a two-roomed cottage, making his living out of the garden. He was a kindly creature, and as he was handy in doing odd jobs, he got along nicely. It was an unwritten law that no one should take advantage of Dicky's simplicity. No one had been suspected of doing so until Nurse Allison arrived.

Nurse also had a garden. By rising extremely early she managed to grow her own vegetables and fruit. When Dicky wanted some seed potatoes he got a supply from her. Unfortunately they proved almost worthless.

"Nurse never let Dicky pay for them potatoes, surely?" said the baker to the sexton, as they stood one day at the idle corner.

"Ay, but he did," chimed in the sweep. "He showed me the money. She is not the sort to give anything for nothing."

"Dicky bought those potatoes right enough," added the sexton; "she'd skin a flint would that woman. But to take advantage of Dicky—"

The enormity was beyond words.

The slander spread. All the busybodies in the street took it up, and the hard-working nurse was given the cold shoulder. The children in the street shouted "Grab-all!" as she passed, and folks rarely answered her cheery "Good morning." Neither by word nor deed did she show any resentment, she just went on as usual; but her influence in the village was entirely checked by a barrier of seed potatoes. The cruel injustice cut deep, and nurse was too proud to clear herself.

It was in Christmas week that Dicky Rawlins was run over by a motor-lorry. He was more frightened than hurt, but he had to stay in bed, and Nurse Allison looked after him. On Christmas Day she brought his dinner from her own table. One of her fowls had been roasted, and Dicky had a goodly portion, followed by plum pudding and mince pie. She brought a large slice of her Christmas cake, and a pork pie for his

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