

## NURSING ECHOES.

\*.\* All communications must be duly authenticated with name and address, not for publication, but as evidence of good faith.

I MUST congratulate the R.B.N.A. on the appreciative notices which have appeared in the daily press, during the past week, when commenting on the success of the *Conversazione*.



I cull the following sympathetic notice from our contemporary, the *Daily Chronicle*:—

“WE understand that Her Majesty is in full sympathy

with Princess Christian's efforts to improve the status and increase the efficiency of the Nursing profession. The badges which the Princess presented on Friday to some hundreds of members of the Royal British Nurses' Association constitute an outward and visible sign of the policy in which the Queen and her daughter are so deeply interested. This policy affects all classes, but its bearing on the interests of the masses is of peculiar importance. We have, fortunately, outlived the rule of Sairey Gamp in the sick room, but it is unquestionable that even now many 'Nurses' undertake and are entrusted with the care of sick people without any real qualification whatever for the duty.

“WHAT Princess Christian and her coadjutors, with the full sympathy of the Queen, aim at, consequently, is to secure competency in all who accept engagements for nursing the sick. They look upon the Nurse as the doctor's most important assistant, believing that the Nurse is hardly less important than the doctor in the work of restoring health to those who have lost it. To secure the necessary competency in Nurses they propose that, as in Cape Colony, provision should be made by legislation that all professional Nurses shall be required to produce certificates from some properly-constituted authority, and shall be registered, like the doctors themselves. It is probable, we believe, that legislation on this important subject will be proposed next Session, and it is difficult to imagine that it will meet with any serious opposition.”

THE institution of Badges by the Committee of the R.B.N.A. is evidently a very popular movement. I hear that 800 members have already applied for this “outward and visible sign,” and I am not at all surprised that the members are anxious to wear a distinguishing symbol, as the

“Queen's Nurses” and the “Adelaide Nurses” have already adopted a Badge.

MISS MESSUM has been appointed Lady Superintendent of the Kent and Canterbury Hospital. She is a Sister at St. Thomas's, and has had the advantage of performing the Assistant Matron's duties.

MISS SARAH STEVENSON has been appointed Matron to the Infirmary at Rotherham. Miss Stevenson was trained at the Royal Infirmary, Glasgow, and has also worked in the Children's Hospital, Glasgow, and the Royal Infirmary, Bristol. She has also had experience of private nursing in connection with St. George's Home, Sheffield, and is well qualified by her varied experience for the responsible post she is about to fill.

THE Worshipful Company of Vintners have voted a sum of £10 10s. towards the Funds of the Nurses' Home of Rest at Brighton. This is the fourth City Company which has shown a practical interest in the scheme.

THERE has been keen competition, and an immense amount of wire-pulling, over the vacant Medical Registrarship at the London Hospital, and I am glad to hear that Mr. Wilfred F. Hadley, a “London man,” has been appointed, as this post, in our large Hospitals, is usually a stepping-stone to the Honorary Medical Staff. The custom in vogue at “the London” of appointing men who have paid their fees, and graduated, in another medical school (in some cases those who have been refused at their Alma Mater), to the most important positions on its staff, is naturally having an effect upon its Medical School, and I learn that the senior students are now showing their very natural distaste to this unfair custom.

A MOST interesting meeting was held at Amsterdam, on the 13th November, to discuss the advisability of forming an association apparently much on the lines of the Royal British Nurses' Association. After a long and animated discussion, in which the inadequate arrangements for training Nurses at many Dutch Hospitals, and the independent attitude of private Nurses, was considered, a very strong Provisional Committee was formed of doctors and superintendents of the leading Hospitals, to inquire into Nursing questions, and to meet again for their further discussion.

THERE was an interesting gathering at the Royal Free Hospital, Gray's Inn Road, on Dec. 10,

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