

Nursing Echoes.

* * *All communications must be duly authenticated with name and address, not for publication, but as evidence of good faith, and should be addressed to the Editor, 20, Upper Wimpole Street, W.*



LAST Friday, an enjoyable gathering took place at the offices of the NURSING RECORD, at 11, Adam Street, Strand, the first of many it is intended to hold during the coming winter. The occasion was the opening of the Exhibition rooms, in which it is proposed to show every novelty of interest to trained nurses. The rooms have been prettily decorated and furnished, and fitted with air-tight cases, in many of which already interesting exhibits are to be seen.

THE complaint constantly made nowadays is that trained nurses are too theoretical, and have lost the grip of practical efficiency. We are not altogether in sympathy with these views, although we are well aware that the superficial theoretical training now considered sufficient for the curriculum in many training schools, is at the root of half the ignorance and inefficiency of the modern nurse, and we shall not cease to agitate for a more thorough basis of scientific education for those who wish to qualify themselves to nurse the sick.

Yet no doubt the practical side of our work might be made much more interesting if nurses were encouraged to compare systems and appliances, instead of assuming that there is but one system, and that is, of course, in vogue at the institution at which they are receiving instruction. This narrow view of the possibilities of nursing is fatal to progress and real efficiency, and we advise nurses to seek out and see for themselves every new appliance, dressing, and method, possible.

With this end in view, we intend to devote much time in the future to helping our readers to keep in touch with all nursing and surgical appliances designed for the well-being, comfort, and recovery of the sick. We shall, therefore, be pleased to hear from any nurse who has inventive genius, who desires that the result of her work shall be brought to the notice of her fellow-nurses and the public.

SOMEHOW the model home for private nurses has not yet been accomplished, and we hear complaints of lack of comfort and cleanliness from the nurses, and lack of appreciation and common sense on the part of the nurses from the proprietors of such Homes. No doubt nurses with a lack of experience of the cost of metropolitan domestic management expect too much for the modest weekly sum they can afford to pay, and the ladies who cater for nurses' needs become disheartened in their attempts to satisfy the requirements of a constant change of inmates.

It is, therefore, a pleasure to announce that a new home for private nurses has lately been opened by Miss Ada Selby, herself an accomplished and successful private nurse of many years' experience, at 24, Eastbourne Terrace, just opposite Paddington Station, and on the direct omnibus route for every part of London. We have had the pleasure of inspecting this Home, and found it cheerfully furnished, well-kept, and home-like, and containing a good bath-room. All those who have the pleasure of the acquaintance of Miss Ada Selby, know her to be a woman of bright and amiable disposition, and well calculated to make a cheery and happy home for those nurses sufficiently fortunate to find accommodation in her house.

DURING the past week, two nurses have complained to us that when wearing nurses' uniform they have been spoken to by men in the West End streets, an insult to which they have never been subjected whilst wearing ordinary apparel. This touches a very sore spot in the nursing profession, and nurses have to ask themselves the question, and try to find an honest answer to it. How far are so-called "nurses" responsible for the fact that immoral men have come to consider nursing uniform a "mark of the beast"? Are we sure that all the golden-haired Phrynes who don so jauntily what should be our distinctive costume are impostors, or is it possible that the product of "Martha's Vineyard" judiciously combines the two "professions" to her monetary satisfaction? This is an ugly question which must be faced and answered.

THE scheme for providing new beds at the London Hospital is being rapidly proceeded with. These beds are on view at the Victorian Era Exhibition, and have proved very satisfactory. They are supplied with strong spring wire mattresses, and are so built as to avoid the necessity of stooping on the part of the nurse.

Four districts have been formed in connection with the Suffolk Nursing Association, and placed

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