

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* * All communications must be duly authenticated with name and address, not for publication, but as evidence of good faith, and should be addressed to the Editor, 20, Upper Wimpole Street, W.



A MEMORIAL tablet has been placed in Westminster Hospital, "In Loving Memory of Nurse Margaret Anderson Allan, who died at Luton, Beds., in faithful discharge of her duty, November 30th, 1895.

"He who loses his life shall save it."

Nurse Allan worked devotedly through a typhoid epidemic at Luton, and contracted the fever of which she died.

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At the quarterly meeting of the Scottish Council of Queen Victoria's Jubilee Institute, the usual report on three months' work was laid before them. In addition to the permanent staff (five) the Council are responsible for 39 probationers at various stages of hospital and district training. During the three months 20 candidates entered the Home for a month of probation; of these five were passed on for hospital training. Eleven nurses completed their training and received appointments. The names of 21 nurses whose training was completed during the preceding six months have been recommended for the Queen's roll. New affiliated branches have been formed at Forth, Wishaw, and Armadale. Forty-two branches have been inspected and reported on to the Executive Committee. 1143 cases have been nursed; 19,214 visits paid. Cases on books, 312. Interim result of special appeal—Donations, £124; subscriptions, £59 8s. 6d. Several County Councils have promised grants.

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THE subject of the letter signed "W. H. A. T.," which we print this week, is one of much importance. Is it or is it not true that nurses on duty in the wards are not expected to be seated? We are bound to say that such a rule never existed in any hospital in which we have worked, although we believe in individual cases unreasonable Sisters have been known to keep their nurses always on the trot, seeming to imagine that some part of their duty must have been neglected, if they perceived a nurse sitting down. As we have heard this complaint from various nurses, it might be beneficial to discuss such a question. As a rule, are seats provided for the nursing staff in hospital wards?

The Caterer makes some interesting remarks on Hospital Catering in France:—"There is a growing feeling that medical men should pay more attention to cookery, the practical side of dietetics. An example of this is afforded by the establishment in Berlin of a training-school of cookery for the instruction of medical men. In France the kitchen departments of hospitals are admirably arranged, no doubt owing to the fact that they are mostly in the hands of Nuns, good ladies who are devoted to any work they take up. At La Charité Hospital in Paris, the kitchens are large and airy; most of the utensils are of copper. The larder is big and well supplied with ice. Large bins are filled with golden maize meal, vermicelli, peas, lentils, haricot beans, and so on. Oatmeal and dried fruits are practically unknown. Puddings, fresh and stewed fruits are also tabooed. The Municipal Hospital at Amiens is an excellent example of a French provincial establishment. There a ration of 250 grammes of meat is allowed for every patient per day. After cooking, allowing for loss of weight, bones, etc., it works out at about 125 grammes per patient. The meat is chiefly beef, but mutton is available for patients of exceptionally weak digestion. The first regular meal is served at 7 o'clock, and consists of soup and bread in the surgical wards; soup, coffee, or chocolate with bread in the medical wards according to doctor's orders. At ten *dejeuner* is served, and consists of meat soup or soup maigre (such as milk, tapioca, or vermicelli), meat, vegetables, and bread, with beer, wine, or milk. Then comes dinner at 4.30, much the same as the *dejeuner*. After that nothing more. Of course patients who are exceptionally ill are specially dieted. Although this does not sound very liberal, and, as a matter of fact, English hospital inmates get more food and greater variety, still the preparation of meals is infinitely superior on the other side of the water. With the ample provisions allowed over here, the French Nuns would do wonders. What we want is greater technical skill in the workers, and more competent supervision." It is quite remarkable how few training schools include sick cookery in their scheme of nurses' education, and what can be of greater importance?

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At an inquest, held last week in Birmingham, into the death of Madeline Agnes Crane, nurse at the isolation hospital, West Heath, Northfield, the husband of the deceased woman said she had left him three times. He had accused her of being friendly with Clark, a porter at the dispensary at Long Acre. The last time she left him he noticed an advertisement, not inserted by him, in the *Weekly Post*, enquiring as to her

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