

**Nursing Echoes.**

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PRINCESS HENRY OF BATTENBERG presented badges and certificates to the members of Queen Victoria's Jubilee Institute for Nurses on Thursday, 5th July, at the London Scottish Drill Hall, and upon her arrival Nurse Cottrell presented the Princess with a beautiful bouquet of red roses and lillies. In his address, the President, the

Rev. A. L. B. Peile, said the Institute had grown marvellously, 1,000 nurses had been enrolled, of whom 553 had been trained in England. The Treasurer, Mr. Harold Boulton, said it was his duty to state that the Institute was in need of funds for the extension of its work. They wanted money for the expenses of training, for grants to necessitous districts, and for the inspection of their nurses all over the kingdom. The Institute was much indebted to the music-hall profession, which had raised £400 for it last year. Mr. Boulton assured the nurses that the Queen's Badge was every bit as honourable as the Victoria Cross. Six Superintendents of district nursing homes received their silver badges, and 48 bronze badges and brassards to nurses who had been placed on the Queen's Roll, were in all presented by the Princess.

In reading newspaper accounts of nurses' meetings (always, of course, excepting the Matrons' Council), we are more and more struck by the fatuous remarks indulged in by the male officials and patrons of nurses' societies. At the meeting referred to above, composed of 1,000 women, no member of our sex, apparently, opened her lips. This is invariably the rule at R.B.N.A. meetings. But alas! time is too short for the male hon. officers of this Association to pour out their fulsome flatteries concerning their self-sacrificing labours in paralysing the speech and actions of the poor nurse members. How long are women going to make themselves ridiculous by quietly listening to such bathos?

A USEFUL work is accomplished by the London School Nurses' Society, founded two years since for the purpose of supplying visiting nurses to elementary schools in poor districts. At the

annual meeting, held in the School Board Offices, recognition was made of the good results that have come from the Society's operations. Upon the maxim that "cleanliness is next to godliness," the Bishop of London, who moved the adoption of the report, offered some illuminating remarks. He had sought to ascertain at what period of life boys began to wash their hands from a spontaneous desire to be clean and feel refreshed, and not simply from fear of ridicule or punishment; and the result of his investigation went to show that reformation of the kind indicated did not occur before the age of sixteen at the very earliest. Other speakers pointed out the clinical, as well as the educational, uses of such an organization, and the fact was emphasized that, with a sum of not more than £500 a year, eight nurses can be kept at work and regularly visit the very poorest schools.

WE cull the following from a contemporary:—

"NURSE-HOUSEMAID, Lady preferred, for small nursing home in the West End. One year's hospital training or mental training. Wages £18, washing, no beer. X. Y. Z., care of Frost, 5 and 62, High Street, Wimbledon."

This advertisement throws a useful side light upon West End Nursing Homes, and one wonders why the many untrained persons who conduct these institutions for large profits, should any longer worry about nursing qualifications, for the persons they employ to look after the unhappy invalids, inveigled into their houses, by the specious title of Nursing Home!

THERE are many abuses in the nursing world, which will only be put down by the legal registration of nurses, but one of the most glaring frauds of the time is the unprofessional nursing home. These institutions, started by untrained women, are purely speculative enterprises, and having made a few enquiries of late in relation to them, one wonders how long the public will continue to be fleeced by these bogus hospitals. The sad part of it is that medical men of good standing support them, and, indeed, many of them have a direct interest in their financial success, so that the question is a complicated one.

FOR instance, a woman has relations in the medical profession. She takes a house in the West End, engages a trained nurse "to look after the nursing." Her medical connections "put money into the concern," and interest themselves in providing the patients. Surely such a system is open to numerous abuses, and is at the least, "unprofessional conduct" upon the part of the medico.

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