

Sister Edwards joined the Society in 1895. She was trained and certificated at the Victoria Hospital for Children, Chelsea, under that fine disciplinarian, Miss Minks, from 1882-88, trained in adult nursing and certificated at the Westminster Hospital from 1888-91, and has been working as a private nurse for ten years, a branch of work, especially in the care of nervous diseases, in which she excels.

Sister Hannah C. Sadleir joined the Society in 1895. She was trained and certificated at the Royal Free Hospital, and in 1899 took a course of training in Midwifery at the Kensington Infirmary, and obtained the certificate of the London Obstetrical Society in the same year.

Sister Isabel MacEwen (*née* Knight) joined the Society in 1896. She was trained and certificated at the Norfolk and Norwich Hospital, 1891-94, since which time she has been engaged in private nursing.

The members and their friends have contributed £45 and the Society £5 towards the expenses of sending a delegate to the International Congress at Buffalo in September next, and have chosen their Secretary, Miss Sophia Cartwright, as their representative. This practical evidence of their sense of professional responsibility is highly creditable, and very pleasing to the Hon. Officers of the Society, who feel strongly that trained nurses owe a certain amount of personal service to the profession at large, of which they are privileged to be members. May this sense greatly increase in nursing ranks in the near future. The time has gone past when a trained nurse can "keep herself to herself" and fulfil her professional obligations. Every nurse is the better and happier in helping her fellow-workers.

E. G. F.

In Memory of the *Maine*.

His Majesty the King received a deputation of ladies from the Committee of the American Hospital Ship *Maine* on Monday.

The deputation consisted of Mrs. George Cornwallis West, Chairman; Mrs. Ronalds, Hon. Treasurer; the Duchess of Marlborough, the Countess of Essex, Madame van André, Mrs. Moreton Frewen, Mrs. Arthur Paget, Mrs. Bradley Martin, Mrs. Leslie, and Miss Warrender.

Mrs. George Cornwallis West, on behalf of the Committee, presented to the King a Gold Medal which had been struck in commemoration of the work performed by the *Maine* for the sick and wounded in South Africa and China, 1899-1901.

The King was graciously pleased to accept the Medal and Address, and expressed his deep appreciation of the services rendered by the *Maine*, and the manner in which the Committee had worked.

Nursing in Germany.

THE NURSING ASSOCIATION OF THE HAMBURG STATE HOSPITALS.*

By HEDWIG VON SCHLICHTING,

Superintendent of the Nursing Department; Hon. Vice-President International Council of Nurses.

The development of social conditions has been such that the urgent necessity of self-maintenance presses to-day upon thousands of women, and it is, therefore, of the deepest importance that lay orders of nursing sisters should be multiplied, where women who do not feel called to renounce the world may find a career and a secure future, without having to submit to the restrictions of strictly religious orders.

Of such, one of the largest, and I think I may say one of the best organized, owing to exceptionally favourable financial conditions, is the Hamburg Nursing Association, which has now been in existence for five and a half years.

The fundamental purpose in establishing this nursing school was to improve the service of the public hospitals by creating a staff of refined and specially educated women for the care of the patients. Until 1895 there were only untrained attendants in the Hamburg hospitals. The New General Hospital at Eppendorf contains nineteen hundred beds, and in June, 1894, I was called to Hamburg to reconstruct the nursing according to the new system. After a year of teaching and preparation the Nursing Institution began its definite existence with thirty-five sisters and twenty pupils. An extensive exodus of the old attendants now took place, and in order to fill vacancies the opportunity for applicants to enter the school was made known all over Germany. Thanks largely to the liberal provisions of our organization plan, devised to meet the needs of many women, it met with widespread favour, and applications were so numerous that a choice of the very best material was made possible. The association flourished most satisfactorily, and now numbers two hundred and fifty sisters.

The entrance age is between twenty and thirty-five years. After one and a half years of probation and instruction, the appointment follows (as sister) for another one and a half years. [The full term is thus three years, and at the end of this time the nurse can sever her connection with the school. She then ceases to be a member of the "Verein" and loses its benefits. The greater number, however, remain in the Verein.—ED.] In the first half year as "sisters" they receive no salary, but in the second half year sixty marks (a mark is equal to one shilling), and in the third

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