

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\* \* All communications must be duly authenticated with name and address, not for publication, but as evidence of good faith, and should be addressed to the Editor, 20, Upper Wimpole Street, W.



The Editors of the "Nursing Directory," issued under the authority of the Matrons' Council, are anxious to include in the forthcoming issue of the Directory a list of all Provincial Private Nursing Institutions which require three years' certification in a general hospital of their private nurses. They will therefore be greatly obliged to all Superintendents of institutions maintaining this standard if they will kindly communicate with the Editors, "Nursing Directory," 11, Adam Street, Strand, W.C.

Miss Alice Mary Bushby, who has recently been elected a member of the Matrons' Council, began her nursing career at the East London Hospital for Children, Shadwell. She then entered the nursing school of King's College Hospital, where she obtained training in the nursing of adults. After this, Miss Bushby returned to the East London Children's Hospital as Sister of the Out-patient Department, and afterwards Ward Sister. She held these appointments for eight years, the latter part of the time holding the position of Senior Sister. In August, 1900, she was appointed Matron of the Isolation Hospital, Millbrook, Southampton.

The Departmental Committee of the Local Government Board which is now holding an enquiry on the Nursing of the Sick Poor in Workhouses has intimated that it will be happy to hear the evidence of a representative of the Matrons' Council of Great Britain and Ireland, and Mrs. G. F. Wates has been appointed as the Delegate of the Council, and consented to act.

Mrs. Wates was for some years Matron of the New Infirmary, Lewisham, and is well acquainted with Poor Law administration and its needs, and the able way in which she superintended the Nursing Department at the Lewisham Infirmary must command general respect. The Matrons' Council could scarcely have found a better Delegate.

The "flue" has found its way into our large hospitals, and dozens of nurses have been *hors d'œ*

*combat* during the past fortnight. It is of a mild type, however, and recoveries are rapid. How all-important after all are the nurses in the scheme of hospital economy! Their true value is realised when twenty or thirty are incapacitated at one time.

A speaker at a women's club recently caused a sensation by describing the case of a private nurse who excluded the relatives from the room of a dying patient and then, throwing open the door said, "You can come in now, the patient is dead." What ground there was for this particular story we do not know, but we do know from our own experience that some nurses are apt to be careless and insensitive as to the feelings of their patients, and to imagine that they do not hear remarks made quite openly as to their condition. A nurse in the receiving room of a Poor Law Infirmary recently caused some pain by stating to a guardian that a patient just brought in was in a dying condition, and that they "were often brought in like that." The nurse's defence was that she made the remark knowing the patient to be very deaf, and semi-conscious, and recognising the gentleman who asked the question, which led to her statement, as one of the guardians. Nevertheless the lesson of the episode is the need for extreme care in speaking of the sick and dying in their presence.

Sixteen nurses at the Fulham Infirmary have recently attended a course of lectures on invalid cookery by the Inspector of the Technical Education Board of the London County Council, and submitted to subsequent examination in the subject. It is proposed that a certificate shall be granted to them by the Board of Guardians respecting the manner in which they acquitted themselves.

At a recent meeting of the Westminster Guardians it was recently reported that a nurse had been off duty and in hospital for several months suffering from blood-poisoning caused by cutting her corns with a pair of scissors. We should have supposed that everyone knew that this was not the right method of dealing with these troublesome affections, but for a nurse to employ it shows deplorable professional ignorance.

Mrs. Macdonald, who for ten years held the position of Matron of the Hospital, Devizes, has recently resigned her position and opened the North Wilts Nursing Home in the same town. Mrs. Macdonald was trained at King's College and Charing Cross Hospitals under St. John's

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