

medical officer of the hospital, presided, and amongst others present were the Mayor and Mayoress (Alderman and Mrs. David Wade), Dr. James Phillips (hon. medical officer), Dr. Edward Magoveny, Miss Hodges (Matron at the Bradford Royal Infirmary), Miss Douglas, Miss King, Miss Broughton, Miss Cameron (Matron at the Children's Hospital). The Chairman explained that the medals were competed for annually, and were held by the successful students for one year. This year's winner of the gold medal was Nurse Grace (Miss Wade), who had secured 76½ marks out of a possible 100. Nurse Helen (Miss Forbes) came next, with 74½ marks, and thus claimed the silver medal; while the two bronze medals went to Nurse Eillen (Miss Denton) and Nurse Mabel (Miss Cooper), each of whom had received 63 marks. The Mayor, after a few brief and appropriate remarks, presented the medals, which were pinned in position by the Mayoress. A hearty vote of thanks was accorded to the medical staff for their lectures; a similar compliment was passed to the Mayor and Mayoress. The Mayor having responded, the visitors enjoyed the hospitality of the Matron at tea.

It is with much pleasure we learn that the local committee of the Queen Victoria Jubilee Nurses' Institute at Cardiff has arranged to open in October a maternity department. The field of their work will eventually be a large one, certainly no less than 3,000 confinements annually being at present attended by midwives in the county borough of Cardiff. The General Committee of the Queen's Institute has appointed a Maternity Committee, and the last-named body has, after most careful consideration, drafted a set of rules which will safeguard the charity from abuse, and, it is confidently anticipated, will secure the support and co-operation of the local medical profession. The Committee realises that this latter consideration is of the greatest importance, as under the Midwives' Act there are something between thirty and forty specified conditions in the mother and infant in any of which the midwife must, under pain of sundry penalties, call in the aid of a qualified practitioner.

The scheme will involve a considerable initial outlay with an annual expenditure of about £400, but promises of financial support have already been received, and the Committee are confident that they will not appeal for help in vain. The rules of the new department will ensure that all its practical work is carried out under the personal supervision of experienced certified midwives. The department has been added with a double purpose—in the interests of the teaching of midwives, and to meet a long-felt want in Cardiff—*i.e.*, a well-organised maternity charity. A course of lectures

to midwives will be commenced at the College in October.

We have always maintained that the organisation of maternity nursing amongst the poor, which to be efficient must be performed by women with an elementary knowledge of midwifery, would be most satisfactorily carried out by the Queen's Jubilee Institute. We are glad Cardiff has led the way, and hope other centres may follow suit.

A public meeting was held at New Maud last week in connection with the Maud District Nursing Association. Mrs. Dingwall Fordyce presided, and said the meeting had been called for the purpose of forming a regular association, and of being formally affiliated to the Central Institute in Edinburgh. A Jubilee nurse had been at work in the district for six months, but regular affiliation had been deferred by permission of the Central Committee till a public meeting could be held and it was known whether sufficient funds could be raised to justify the more permanent arrangement. This had now been done, and ample means were forthcoming. Miss Dingwall Fordyce then submitted the report of the nurse's work for the past six months, which showed that there was ample scope for her services. Mrs. Dingwall Fordyce was reappointed President, and Miss Fordyce and Mrs. Kemp Hon. Secretary and Hon. Treasurer respectively.

As our readers are aware, a system of Registration is, at the present time, in force in Victoria. It is true the system is a voluntary one, but it is on the right lines—(1) the recognition and registration of training-schools which maintain a definite accepted standard; (2) the registration of nurses who have satisfactorily answered the tests put to them by the Board of Examiners; (3) the joint appointment of medical practitioners and nurses as examiners. At the present time it is especially interesting to British nurses to note the results of a system of Registration conducted on these lines, and we therefore quote the editorial remarks in a recent issue of *Una*, the organ of the Royal Victorian Trained Nurses' Association, on this subject:—

"To anyone acquainted with the procedure that some years ago obtained here as elsewhere in the training of nurses, the enormous advance that has recently been made must be a matter for pride as well as congratulation.

"In times past, even where the curriculum of study had been extended to three years, the methods of imparting practical instruction were both inadequate and unsystematic. But when the thirty-seven recognised general hospitals of this State became registered as training-schools, they undertook, not only that no trainee should be admitted to her final examination in nursing until she had passed her hospital examination in elementary anatomy and physiology, but that she should receive practical instruction in the wards of the hospital from a trained and registered Matron or Sister, that there should be

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