

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**** All communications must be duly authenticated with name and address, not for publication, but as evidence of good faith, and should be addressed to the Editor, 20, Upper Wimpole Street, W.*



"Florence Nightingale" is the title of book just published, in which the story of the heroine of the Crimea, a story which never fails to charm, is told by Mrs. Sarah Tooley. We hope to review the book which we have received from the publishers, in an early issue.

A presentation is to be made to Miss Henderson (Sister Frances) in the Nurses' Library at St. Bartholomew's Hospital on Saturday, October 22nd. Doubtless many Bart's nurses will muster at this function to express their good wishes to the recipient.

St. Bartholomew's Hospital is to lose its Treasurer, Sir Trevor Lawrence. We hope a young and active business man may be elected to fill this important position; much of the future success of this hospital depends upon the devotion to its interests which the future Treasurer is prepared to give. It is to be hoped he may be a man who appreciates the fact that only by a progressive policy can "Bart's" be kept well to the front in the hospital world. Its traditions are splendid, but it cannot continue to exist on them; it must be making history all the time.

One good thing about Bart's is the liberty of conscience accorded to its nursing staff; no coercion has ever been attempted, and, in consequence, extraordinarily good discipline has been maintained. When a feeble attempt was made some years ago, during the R.B.N.A. rows, by isolated medical members to force their views on certain nursing officers, the lay authorities would have none of it, and nothing but good has resulted to the hospital from this just attitude towards its nurses.

The Countess of Derby last week opened the new Nurses' Home of the Rochdale District Nurses' Association, erected as a local memorial to her late Majesty Queen Victoria. The Home, which is in affiliation with the Queen Victoria's Jubilee Institute, was founded in 1896 with two nurses, and the work increased so rapidly that the engagement of a third speedily became necessary. At the present time five nurses are at work, and before long another will be necessary to meet the increasing demand. We congratulate the nursing staff on their beautiful

new Home, which, standing in an elevated position with a south frontage, has an uninterrupted view over a pleasant park.

Should the modern stewardess be a trained nurse? In our opinion, all the large liners should carry at least one trained nurse, who might under certain circumstances fill the position of head stewardess; but if the right kind of woman is to be attracted, the shipping companies must make a place for her which does not at present exist. She not only should be, but should rank as, a gentlewoman, and be treated as such. No doctor would consent to serve under other conditions. His status is recognised, he has a cabin allotted to him for his personal use, he takes his meals with the first-class passengers, and, if his life is not exciting, it is at least that of a gentleman. If a nurse, on the other hand, desires to be of use to humanity on board ship, she must sign the ship's articles—not as a nurse, but as a stewardess. This means she must perform all the work of an ordinary stewardess, be up before six o'clock to get the passengers' baths, get her meals as best she may, stay on duty until about eleven o'clock at night, and, when the saloon is empty, perhaps make up her bed on one of the tables there and get what sleep she may in company with other stewardesses. Is it likely that posts of this description will attract well-trained, capable nurses? A nurse should rank as a ship's officer; then call her head stewardess, if you will. She could supervise the work of the ordinary stewardesses, and teach them simple first-aid duties with advantage to all concerned.

Some of our readers may be glad to know of a hydro within easy reach of town where they can be received on boarding terms ranging from 42s. to 63s. per week. Such is Dumpsford House, near Petersfield, Hants, which is situated on the borders of Hampshire and Sussex, one and a-quarter miles from Elsted Station, on the London and South-Western Railway, and which commands extensive views of some of the most picturesque country in Sussex. The house contains accommodation for about thirty visitors, whose comfort and convenience is in every way studied. It is conducted in accordance with temperance principles, no intoxicants being allowed at the table. There are many places of interest in the neighbourhood, including Midhurst, with the picturesque ruins of Cowdray Castle; Chichester, with its Cathedral and Market Cross; Arundel Castle, and many other places which furnish interesting points for excursions. Both massage, and Turkish, vapour, electric, and other baths, are obtainable on the premises at fixed charges, and a medical attendant is attached to the house. The proprietress is Mrs. A. P. Boys.

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