

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* * All communications must be duly authenticated with name and address, not for publication, but as evidence of good faith, and should be addressed to the Editor, 20, Upper Wimpole Street, W.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 public, who in all cases of serious illness utilise the services of trained nurses almost as a matter of course, often do not realise the risk to which nurses cheerfully subject themselves in cases of infectious disease. A feature of the epidemic of enteric fever at Lincoln is the number of nurses who have contracted the disease.

At the present time twelve are under treatment, and the greater part of this number have the disease in a most virulent form. This would seem to indicate that the source of infection in the city has not yet been removed, for well-trained nurses, who carefully carry out the principles of disinfection and of personal care in relation to enteric, do not contract the disease from the patients whom they nurse.

It is a well-known fact that when nurses do contract disease things go often very hardly with them, because, as a rule, they are working to the utmost of their capacity, and have little reserve of strength to fall back upon in case of serious illness.

Princess Louise Duchess of Argyll has consented to visit Carnforth Lodge, Hammersmith, on June 29th for the purpose of receiving purses on behalf of the Hammersmith and Fulham District Nursing Association.

Miss Mary Hull, who has held the position of Matron of the Great Northern Central Hospital since 1887, has resigned this position. Miss Hull has been in active nursing work for the last thirty years, having entered St. Thomas's Hospital for training in 1875, where she remained for ten years. From 1885 to 1887 she held positions at the Hospital for Consumption, Brompton, and the Sussex County Hospital and Cromwell House, Highgate, from which last she was appointed to her present position.

Miss Helen Cameron, Matron of the Royal Hospital for Diseases of the Chest, City Road, has also resigned her position. Miss Cameron's keen interest in nursing organisation is well known, and she hopes, with more leisure, to be able to devote more time to work for the general good.

The Committee of Management of the Norfolk

and Norwich Hospital state that during the year there has been in the housekeeping department a careful revision of the scale of diet, under the supervision of the medical men, and with the able assistance of the Lady Superintendent. The scale is now thoroughly satisfactory to the medical staff, and it is carried out with absolute economy. The aid which the Committee has received from the Lady Superintendent (Miss Florence Cann) cannot, they say, be too highly extolled. The general result of these housekeeping efforts has been that whereas the cost of maintenance of each patient in 1903 was £65 15s., which was not an exorbitant sum, it has been reduced in the year gone by to £64.

The Committee of the Hampshire Nurses' Institute, 8, King's Park Road, Southampton, in their thirty-seventh annual report state that the staff, who number sixteen nurses, eleven of whom work on the co-operative principle, have nursed 170 cases during the past year. The nurses have given the greatest satisfaction both to the Committee and patients, and, by their high standard of excellence, they continue to keep up the good reputation borne by the Institute for so many years. The earnings of the staff have amounted to £1,123 12s. 9d. The Committee expressed their special thanks to the Matron (Mrs. Varian), who has, as in many years past, most ably attended to the welfare of the nurses and carried out the general management of the institution. During the year eleven nurses have left the Institute; of these one went to South Africa, one to India, two returned to hospital, three gave up nursing, and the remainder left at their own wish.

It is noteworthy that the standard enforced by the Central Midwives' Board is already having an effect upon the training given in provincial maternity hospitals. Mrs. Livingstone, the Hon. Secretary of the Birkenhead Ladies' Maternity Hospital, is appealing in the Press for aid for that institution, on the ground that, in consequence of the more stringent requirements of the Central Midwives' Board, the committee have been compelled to reconsider the condition of the hospital, and must appeal for help to put it in thorough repair; and, further, to establish in one of the poorest parishes of the town a district maternity home, where they will place a thoroughly qualified and certificated midwife, who will work amongst the poor women, and take with her, to their houses, pupil midwives drafted on from the hospital to complete their education, and acquire the necessary experience for obtaining the certificate from the Central Midwives' Board.

It is surely easy to understand that when a minimum standard of nursing education is authoritatively defined, the same effect will be observed in relation to raising the efficiency of nursing educa-

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