

## 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\* \* \* *All communications must be duly authenticated with name and address, not for publication, but as evidence of good faith, and should be addressed to the Editor, 20, Upper Wimpole Street, W.*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 Nurses's Home at the London Hospital is now practically completed, and will be ready for occupation next month. It provides accommodation for 260 nurses, and the nursing staff are looking forward with keen anticipation to the time when they will take possession of their new quarters.

The Mayoress, Mrs. W. E. B. Priestley, recently presented gold and silver badges to the probationers and nurses of the Royal Infirmary, Bradford, who obtained the highest number of marks in their examination. The Mayor was in the chair.

The report of the lecturers and examiners, respecting the annual examination on the lectures, warmly praised the general excellence of the work, not only with regard to the marks obtained, but also the keener interest taken in the work by the nurses year by year.

The successful nurses were :—Senior nurses : Gold medal and badge awarded to Nurse Harborough. Junior nurses : Badges and silver medals presented to Nurses Denison and Jameson (equal number of points). Book prizes for bandaging work were awarded to Nurses Bibby and Fawthrop.

In the speeches which followed, Mr. H. Behrens, chairman of the House Committee, paid a high tribute of praise to the work of the lady superintendent, Miss Hodges.

Dr. Horrocks, addressing his remarks to the nurses in training, urged them to guard against what he might call flippancy. For nurses to speak in a trivial way of matters of seriousness, he considered, lowered and degraded them in the eyes of those who heard them.

The Journal of the Leicester Infirmary Nurses' League is full of interesting matter, and the League is to be congratulated on the excellent way in which it is edited. Miss Rogers, in her opening remarks, writes : "As we look back over the past two years I am sure all will feel glad that we formed the League when we did, for without it we could not have taken any corporate action in the important movements which have taken place—movements which cannot but have some influence over the future of the nursing profession."

After referring to the Select Committee on

the Registration of Nurses, and to the attempt to obtain the incorporation of the Society for promoting the Higher Education of Nurses, Miss Rogers continues :—

"We have also seen the various Leagues drawing together and forming a central committee of delegates nominated by them. Surely, this is a most interesting movement; first local Leagues are formed, then the members, realising the great value of co-operation, seek by affiliation with other Leagues to form a representative and National Council of Nurses which may, in its turn affiliate with an International Council. It shows the awakening of nurses to the value of organisation (without which we cannot hope to make much progress) and proves the increasing interest taken by them in the things which concern their profession, and I would repeat the advice given us by Miss Stewart to be 'anything rather than indifferent.' With hostility or friendship something can be done; with indifference—nothing."

The Leicester Infirmary is always to the forefront in the adoption of progressive movements in relation to nursing education, and we note with pleasure that a preliminary course has been established in this institution. The following account is given in the League Journal :—

"It is arranged that three or four probationers should enter on the same day; they are then, at once, put under the charge of the Assistant Matron and one of the senior nurses, and all their work, both in class and in the wards, is done under their supervision. So far as possible they are taught their duties in class first, and then have to carry out the instructions so given in the wards practically. They, of course, begin with the simplest ward work, then for a week they are put on to help the night nurses make the beds, and to sweep; after this they are taught how to wash patients, give various kinds of baths, take temperatures, administer enemata and douches, to clear up the theatre, scrub mackintoshes, prepare dressings, pad splints, &c. They also have classes in bandaging, and three times a week in elementary anatomy and physiology.

"The great advantage of this system is perhaps that probationers are taught to do the work in the wards, not in any artificial surroundings; but no one is more conscious of its defects than the writer. In the first place, it is far too short, two months is the longest time for which we can at present spare three or four workers from regular duty in the wards, but it is at any rate a beginning, and to have taken the first step in a right direction (even if only a short one) is a gain. We also trust to be able to supplement the course by continuation classes given in the wards on practical points of nursing. There are, of course, dangers; the probationers may think they know a great deal more than

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