

Miss Ley, Miss B. Anderson, Miss Lippiatt (Night Superintendent), Miss Forster, Miss Smith (Kitchen Superintendent), and Miss M'Kinlay, (Laundry Superintendent)."

The Annual Meeting of King Edward VII.'s Coronation National Fund for Nurses in Ireland was held last Monday. The Countess of Aberdeen presided. The Annual Report showed that the nurses and probationers who are members now number 177.

The adoption of the Report was moved by Sir Arthur Chance, President of the College of Surgeons, who said that they must recognise that the society could only alleviate and could not cure the condition of nurses with regard to their future. It was those ladies who made nursing their life work who, by their attention, skill, and knowledge, made much of the surgeon's work possible, and it was they who deserved the sympathy of the society most. Moreover, their salary was usually inadequate. The society was not in a very strong position, and in consequence subscribers could not obtain benefits out of proportion to the small amount of the annual subscription. He was satisfied that that condition of things was due to ignorance of the society's work.

The report, having been seconded by Sir William Smyly, President of the College of Physicians, was unanimously adopted, and the following five members, having been elected by ballot by the nurse members, were declared representatives of the nurses on the Council for the ensuing year: Miss Ramsden, Lady Superintendent, Rotunda Hospital; Miss Mac-Donnell, R.R.C., Lady Superintendent, Richmond Hospital; Miss Lamont, Lady Superintendent, Q.V.J.L.N.; Miss Kelly, Lady Superintendent, Steevens' Hospital; Miss Shuter, Lady Superintendent, Royal City of Dublin Hospital.

Dr. J. N. Hall, of Denver, contributes an interesting article on Appendicitis in Trained Nurses to the *Journal of American Medical Association*. The great frequency of this disease among the pupils of the Denver City and County Hospital has, he says, attracted his attention as well as that of other members of the staff for some years. He has therefore collected notes of ten cases of appendicitis which have occurred amongst the nurses of that school, all of which were operated upon successfully. At least three more mild cases either refusing or delaying operation are also omitted in order that only completed cases may be dealt with. Eight other cases in other hos-

pitals are also included, covering a period of two years in four hospitals, making a total of eighteen cases.

There are therefore eighteen cases of appendicitis in five training schools the number of nurses being 296, making a percentage of 6.08 operated on. There can, he considers, be no possible escape from the conviction that appendicitis is extremely common in the pupils of training schools and among trained nurses in general.

The average age of the eighteen nurses was 23½ years, and their average time in training at the time of operation 14 months. Thirteen were operated on at the beginning of an attack and five were interval operations. In two cases gangrene was present, and in one the patient broke out with measles as she left the table, and the appendix showed much redness and swelling, leading the operators to consider it a case of eruptive disease, manifested internally as well as externally. Every case made a good recovery.

As to the cause of the frequency of the disease amongst nurses, the following are suggested as contributory causes: Most pupils in training schools are on their feet very much more than has hitherto been the case. Constipation is certainly the rule amongst the pupils and may be a factor. The stooping posture adopted in making beds, bathing patients, &c., has also an influence. The greatest factor is, however, Dr. Hall believes, that the nurse, like the physician, is on the alert for trouble in the right flank, recognises the attack at once, realises its dangers, sees a physician at once, and is operated on immediately rather than go through an attack of more or less doubtful outcome. The results in these cases are thus as nearly ideal as possible owing to early diagnosis, and prompt and skilful intervention. Dr. Hall emphasises the tremendous advantage of early diagnosis, and prompt operation in three cases, and states that "the mortality rate could be practically wiped out if we could only have such favourable conditions as we find in the average training school for nurses."

A hospital for foreigners has been founded by Lady Layard on the Guidecca, which is a real boon to the city as it not only admits patients but also supplies trained nurses to the public, a quite unattainable luxury up to the present time. The hospital has been honoured by a visit from Queen Margherita, who expressed herself delighted with it.

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