

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♦♦ All communications must be duly authenticated with name and address, not for publication, but as evidence of good faith, and should be addressed to the Editor, 20, Upper Wimpole Street, W.



as as exceedingly unprofessional.

Will our very numerous correspondents please note that this professional journal is edited by a trained nurse—and a woman. The names of the editorial staff and collaborators appear in each issue. Surely we have passed the time when letters, with their somewhat intimate contents, should be addressed to a "Dear Sir." It strikes

A meeting of the council of Queen Victoria's Jubilee Institute for Nurses was held recently at the offices of the Institute, 120, Victoria Street, S.W., at which reports were received from the various committees which showed steady advancement in the work of the Institute.

Mr. Haldane's reply to the question asked in the House, whether he would explain why nurses at Netley Hospital and in the Army's Service were not permitted when off duty to take part in private and public dances, has given very general satisfaction both to the nurses themselves and the public.

In his reply to Mr. C. Edwards on behalf of Mr. Rendall, Mr. Haldane said: "I have consulted the Nursing Board, which contains amongst its members many ladies of great experience in these matters. They have advised me to the following effect. The Nursing Board requires for his Majesty's Nursing Service gentlewomen who are devoted first and foremost to their work for its own sake and the sake of their patients, and who therefore desire to live quietly and unostentatiously, without looking for much gaiety. Occasional attendance at operas, theatres, concerts, and other places of amusement is not incompatible with the due performance of their duty, and is allowed at the discretion of the matron. But the late hours involved in attendance at balls and dances, in the opinion of the Board, incapacitates them for giving their proper attention to their patients on the following day."

Answering a further question as to what he meant by "these matters" Mr. Haldane said: "I referred to the arrangements which have been made for the performance of the duties of the nurses. I may say that in this case the weight and authority of experienced matrons and highly experienced ladies have prevailed over my natural instincts."

In the November issue of the *London Hospital Gazette* it is written: "The Quarterly Nursing Demonstrations in the selected wards took place last week, and were highly appreciated by all those who were sensible enough to attend them. So much is compressed into so short a time, however, that these demonstrations chiefly serve to point out what a dresser or clerk ought to be gradually learning during the time he is in the wards. Later on, when he discovers his absolute ignorance of enemata, nutrients and the like, he looks back with regret to the opportunities he has missed. That side of ward training is much neglected." A course of practical nursing should be included in all medical school curricula.

The Infirmary Management and Visiting Committee of the City of London Union Infirmary have recommended that medals of gold, silver, and bronze should be given to the three most successful probationary nurses. The Board have, however, referred back the question for further consideration. Grades of medals are not advisable. A gold medal awarded to the most competent nurse of her class encourages individual effort. Such a medal is awarded at St. Bartholomew's Hospital. The system at Guy's is also to be commended. Silver medals are awarded to members of the nursing staff who have worked well at the hospital for five years.

An interesting presentation was made in St. Paul's School, Haggerston, last Tuesday, when a purse containing £20 15s 3½d. was presented to Miss Böge, Superintendent of the Shoreditch and Bethnal Green District Nursing Association. Last year a monthly penny collection amongst the women of the mothers' meeting connected with St. Paul's, Haggerston, was organised on behalf of the Nursing Association by Miss Ida Greenwood, the sister of one of the doctors. Nearly all the members responded and some of the husbands as well. At the end of the year £16 had been collected, and on Tuesday last all the nurses of the Association were invited to be present at a meeting, when the Hon. Mrs. Gilbert Johnstone presented the total sum, swelled by a collection taken on the spot to £20 15s. 3½d., to Miss Böge. A very pleasant evening

[previous page](#)

[next page](#)