

by which it is hoped to raise a large sum, but, in addition, a public appeal is to be made for £12,000.

Princess Louise, Duchess of Argyll, will open the New Wing of the Infirmary and the Bazaar on the 5th of November.

The Lord Mayor of Birmingham stated at the annual meeting of the Birmingham and Midland Eye Hospital that the management and cleanliness of the institution under Miss Marriot's supervision were highly creditable, but added that the present accommodation for nurses and servants was miserable—about the worst he had ever seen. No doubt, the Committee will soon remedy these conditions as they have £10,200 on deposit.

We always regret to find District Nursing Associations severing their connection with Queen Victoria's Jubilee Institute; it usually means a lowering of standards. Colchester Nursing Association has ceased affiliation with the Institute, and it is reported that three qualified nurses have been appointed. Considering the present lack of standards for nurses, and, as far as we can gather, as the Committee is entirely an unprofessional one, we wonder who has the right to accept responsibility to the sick poor for their efficient nursing, now that the Queen's Inspector no longer superintends the work.

Who invented Pound Day? We don't know, but whoever it was deserves a knighthood, only we are sure it was a woman, and such soothing little attentions are not for them.

The Pound Day in aid of the Kingsbridge Cottage Hospital has this year again broken the record. Last year the pounds sent in numbered 1,900. This year the total has been nearly doubled, the aggregate representing no less than 3,300 lbs.

Miss Edith E. Please, the popular Matron, who appears to have the power of enlisting much practical sympathy for the hospital, reports this year that a horse ambulance has been given, and that Mr. Birks, who built the new wing, has now added to his record for generosity by giving a verandah for the women's ward.

The *Bulletin Professionnel des Infirmières et Gardes-Malades* has devoted most of its space this month to an admirable report of the International Nursing Conference at Paris, and proposes to continue the publication of the leading papers in further issues. As this

Journal is widely read in France, its reports will be most helpful.

We are all in sympathy with the opinion expressed in the following paragraph by the editor of the *South African Medical Record*:—

"We have been informed that a certain fairly large South African hospital has adopted a rule under which all its nurses and nursing probationers have to agree to work in private houses whenever required. In this particular case, the hospital is entering into active competition with an established private nursing home, which we consider in itself unfair, for, as we once before pointed out, it is, in other public bodies wholly or partially supported by the State, a standing rule that the employees shall not enter into competition with private enterprise. But, as regards the probationers, there is another aspect of the question which the Medical Councils should look into. These bodies accept certain hospitals as training schools for probationers on the distinct understanding that they are to be properly trained in the only possible way, namely, under that systematic supervision which is only possible in a hospital. They advisedly do not allow any portion of that training to be taken under a medical practitioner in private, simply because they know that the training got in the latter way would be picked up haphazard and not taught. To farm out a probationer as a money-making process is distinctly to get round the Council regulations. Further, is it right or safe that a probationer, perhaps in the early part of her first year, should take sole charge of a case in private? What would be thought of a medical school which farmed out its students for tangible fees in competition with qualified practitioners? Exactly the same principle applies here. All round we can conceive of few things more demoralising to a probationer than private nursing, without supervision, especially as, in this country, she would be required more or less to combine the duties of all the twenty-four hours' nurse with those of housekeeper, cook, and mother's help."

Mennen's Powder.

For some time past we have been testing this preparation, and find it is in many ways an improvement on the old-fashioned toilet preparations. It is so carefully prepared as to be absolutely free from any gritty element, and it, moreover, possesses valuable antiseptic qualities. In one specially obstinate case of eczema intertrigo in a young child, this powder acted admirably, and quickly cured the extreme irritation and discharge. We find that it can be used for the most sensitive skins, both of infants and adults, and can cordially recommend it to the notice of our readers.

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