

### Nursing Echoes.



The Duke of Portland took the chair at the triennial meeting of subscribers to the Queen Victoria Jubilee Institute for Nurses, on Thursday in last week. Mr. H. Boulton, the treasurer, remarked that a still further income of £3,000 would be necessary in order to keep pace with the demand all over the kingdom, which the success of the Institute's work itself created. The Duke of Portland congratulated Queen Alexandra's Committee on their excellent work, and the splendid results which had accrued from it. Since 1896, the year of its foundation, the Queen's Commemoration Fund had built up a subscription list of £4,000 per annum, and, in addition to this, had handed over to the Institute, as the result of the Women's Memorial and other smaller undertakings, a capital sum of something like £115,974. It was hoped to have a dinner on behalf of their Fund, and it would give him great pleasure to help to make it a success.

A two months' well-earned extra holiday, after twenty years of arduous work for the hospital, has been granted to Miss Isla Stewart by the Committee of St. Bartholomew's Hospital, and she had a most cheery send-off both at the hospital and at Victoria Station on Saturday last, *en route* for Italy. We all just longed to be flying away with her to the sunny South.

Private nurses, needing a home, will be glad to know that Mrs. MacEwen, a member of the Registered Nurses' Society, and her sister, Miss Wellwood, receive paying guests in their comfortable home at 5, Endsleigh Street, Gordon Square, W.C. The house has just been repapered and painted, and is as fresh and clean as a new pin. With the exception of two rooms on the top floor, all the rooms are single ones, a feature which will be greatly appreciated, and very bright and cheerful they are, with pretty papers and big windows. Another thing which nurses will welcome is that for the sum of one penny they can have a cup of tea brought to them with their hot water in the morning. Also, there is a gas ring provided upon which they can boil a kettle and obtain hot water at will. There is a bath room with hot and cold water, and the house is lighted with electric light throughout. A telephone is also installed. It

is evident that the comfort of the visitors will be the first consideration. The house is close to King's Cross, St. Pancras, and Euston Stations, a consideration to private nurses.

School Nurses would do well to read a little pamphlet issued by the Independent Labour Party, by Dr. M. D. Eder, "Disease in the Schoolroom." It calls attention to many diseases now prevalent in the State Schools of the country, and points out the urgent need for careful watch being kept over the patients. It also shows in what directions medical treatment voluntarily provided should supplement the inspection enforced by the new Act.

Speaking at the Annual Meeting of the After Care Association for poor persons discharged recovered from Asylums for the Insane, held at 48, Wimpole St., W., on January 29th, Mr. Anthony Hope Hawkins said the Society had been founded by his dear cousin, Henry Hawkins, a man of saintly life, warm affections, and personal charm. He was devoted to those afflicted persons to whom he gave his life. When the time came for them to leave the Asylum it seemed to him like throwing a man back into the sea without the power to swim, and that it was urgent to throw out a plank, or stretch out a hand to them. This impulse was the origin of the After Care Association. No cause could appeal more strongly to men and women who had preserved their senses than the help of those handicapped by the affliction of mental disease.

At the adjourned inquest, held last Friday, on Charles Henry Oatridge, who died in the Chelsea Poor Law Infirmary, on December 4th, Dr. Freyberger, who conducted the *post mortem* examination, considered the fact that the deceased was forgotten by the bathman and left in scanty clothing for two hours in the cold bathroom had accelerated his death.

This neglect was not denied, and the offending official had been discharged. The Coroner in summing up condemned all concerned, doctors and nurses included, and the jury found that the treatment received by Oatridge in the infirmary accelerated his death, and that the treatment of patients by the medical staff called for further and strict investigation.

We are not surprised to learn that the Nursing Staff at Chelsea Infirmary considers this condemnation unjustified. The nursing

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