

Nursing Echoes.



The Duke and Duchess of Portland are organising a dinner on behalf of Queen Victoria's Jubilee Institute for Nurses, to be held on Tuesday, June 23rd, when several prominent ladies and gentlemen well known to the public will give their aid to the undertaking by speaking on behalf of the Queen's Nurses.

The Ladies' Association of St. Mary's Hospital, Paddington, which was only started in 1906, has already provided the hospital with some 3,000 garments, and during the past year it has supplied more than 1,100 garments and articles, which are all that the Matron has asked for. Lady Dimsdale made this satisfactory report at the annual meeting of the Association at the hospital.

The Hon. W. Sydney, Mayor of Chelsea, proposed at an extraordinary meeting of the Chelsea Board of Guardians, that the Local Government Board be asked to inquire into the management of the Infirmary, consequent upon the opinion of the Coroner's Jury, at the inquest on Charles Henry Oatridge. The resolution was carried, the Board courting the fullest inquiry into the management of the institution.

Three of the nurses at the Edmonton and Enfield Isolation Hospital at Winchmore Hill have been presented with the certificate of the Society for the Protection of Life from Fire for bringing twenty-seven children out of a ward, which was destroyed by the fire which occurred at the institution some time ago.

Miss M. L. Payne, who has for the past two years been working single-handed as school nurse at Brighton, over a large area of thirty-three schools, is rejoicing that, acting upon the advice of a special sub-committee, the Town Council have decided to appoint another nurse. Miss Payne is of opinion that medical inspection will give the school nurse recognised status, help which she greatly needs in her many difficulties. The School Nurses' League should also be a very helpful factor in the life of school nurses in the future.

The Annual Meeting of the Nottinghamshire Nursing Federation was held in the Shire Hall, Nottingham, and was influentially at-

tended. Miss Ross, the able County Superintendent, reported that 3,705 cases had been attended during the year, in addition to 260 brought over from 1906. Of these medical cases numbered 1,860, surgical 1,173, maternity 578, and obstetric 94. No fewer than 68,303 visits had been paid by the nurses.

It is stated in the report that "it became more difficult every year to obtain suitable village nurses, doubtless because so many new districts had been organised throughout the country, and the demand far exceeded the supply. It must be remembered, too, that recent legislation, such as the Notification of Births Act and the Medical Inspection of School Children's Act, opened fresh fields of work, in which it was possible that an organised body of trained nurses as employed by the district association might be of great service to the county at comparatively small cost was likely to increase the difficulty. It was desirable to emphasise this fact, as few could realise the expenditure of time and trouble involved with every change of nurse."

No doubt, as women offering themselves for village nurses become better educated they will realise that it is their duty to subject themselves to prolonged training before accepting the grave responsibilities of nursing the sick, and the inspection of school children. We regret to note that the Bishop of Southwell, in addressing the meeting, remarked "that he was glad to find that the Federation was not over professionalised. . . . With a fair amount of training women not only worked from a professional point, but they were able with a motherly instinct to understand the home, and do all sorts of things which were extremely important to the people." Why in the average lay and clerical mind should all the nursing virtues be denied to the conscientious, thoroughly-trained nurse? One would imagine that thoroughness in a woman's training for her life's work was a crime. It is by publicly placing a premium upon ignorance that so much injury is done to nursing as a whole. One might as well argue that a freshly fledged deacon was fittest to don the mitre because he was not over "clericalised."

We are pleased to note that at the annual meeting of the Lincolnshire Nursing Association it was reported that a new Queen's Nurse had begun work at Louth, and a maternity nurse at Glentham, and that the trustees under the will of the late Mr. John Dawber

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