

### Nursing Echoes.



The Queen has appointed the Duke of Devonshire to be President of Queen Victoria's Jubilee Institute for Nurses, the Duke of Norfolk and Lord Rothschild trustees, and the Rev. A. L. B. Peile, Master of St. Katharine's (late President of the Institute), and Dr. Arthur Shadwell to be members of the Council.

The work of Queen's Nurses throughout the United Kingdom is of the greatest value to the sick poor; its organisation is excellent, but increased financial support is sorely needed. We hope that the new appointments will result in an increase of interest, and consequently of income for the Institute.

The welcome change in the weather will bring sorely needed relief to the hop pickers in Kent, many of whom, having spent all they possess in reaching the hopfields, have been starving because they could not earn enough to keep themselves. In the wake of starvation has followed illness, rheumatic fever and pneumonia being common, and the nurses who give their help, and some of whom give their holidays for this purpose, are kept hard at work grappling with the distressing conditions. Acute illness in the homes of the rich, with every alleviation, is hard to bear. What must it be when the sufferer has to lie on the bare ground under a sodden tent in the scantiest of clothing, and with no money for even the barest necessities of life.

The Earl of Coventry presided on Saturday at a meeting held at Worcester for the purpose of reorganising and extending the work of the City and County Nursing Association, with the view of enlisting more interest in the nursing of the poor in their own homes and in providing skilled attendance upon the sick generally. The Countess of Coventry, the Countess Beauchamp, Viscountess Cobham, Sir Harry and Lady Georgina Vernon, and Mr. Stanley Baldwin, M.P., took part in the proceedings. Sir Harry Vernon moved, and it was agreed, that the work now carried on by the City and County Institution be reorganised and extended under the title of "The Worcester City and County Nursing Association in affiliation

with the Queen Victoria's Jubilee Institution for Nurses."

How many nurses know that Thule is one of the Shetland Islands, or that the services of their profession are required there amongst the women who earn their living hardly at this time of year in connection with the herring fishing? A contemporary which describes the scene when the fishing boats, no less than 2,000 a day, come into harbour, and empty their catch into the great tanks which stand along the shore, says:—"With the coming of the boats begins the toil of the women. Under that inky pall they bend to their day's work. The despotism of the sea now turns upon them. They are Amazons, fighting for their daily bread as hard as ever man fought. In the streets they move along with the stride of giants. Their stout sea-boots and the open knife at the girdle proclaim them a race by themselves. Down at the herring tanks they bend shoulder to shoulder, lifting, cutting, and sorting each fish with a marvellous swiftness. Out and in move nurses with their handbags, for none of the women escape the knife cuts, and finger-stalls are more rife than rings in Thule."

On Thursday in last week, the Countess of Dudley, who travelled from London to Dublin for the purpose, presided at a meeting, at 30, Molesworth Street, in connection with her scheme for the establishment of district nurses in the poorest parts of Ireland. There were present: Lady Mayo, Lady Arnott, Miss MacDonnell, Miss Lamont, Mrs. Berridge, the Earl of Shaftesbury, Lord Frederick Fitzgerald, Mr. Fane Vernon, Mr. W. J. D. Walker, Mr. James Talbot Power, and the Secretary (Miss Bradshaw).

The Lord Lieutenant, the Earl of Aberdeen, who arrived towards the close of the meeting, expressed the deep regret of her Excellency at her non-attendance. It was, he said, quite unnecessary for him to say what splendid results Lady Dudley had achieved by the establishment of district nurses in the poorest parts of Ireland. The work, he was pleased to say, was being splendidly carried on by the Committee, to whom it was entrusted by its founder. He took that opportunity of congratulating Lady Dudley, not only on what she had done, and what she was doing, but also on what she was about to do in the new field opening out before her as wife of the Governor-General of Australia.

[previous page](#)

[next page](#)