

We are always glad to record bequests to nurses, and we learn with pleasure that under the will of the late General Sir Arnold Kemball, K.C.B., Nurse Braybrooks, of St. John's House, Queen Square, W.C., has received a legacy of £100, which we feel sure is well deserved.

We regret that the Brighton, Hove, and Preston District Nursing Association, 5, Marlborough Place, Brighton, reports a deficit of £350 at the end of the year just closed. Queen's Nurses in Brighton, under the able superintendence of Miss Buckle, are performing most valuable work, for very modest pay, and it is not to the credit of a wealthy town like Brighton that a deficit should be so constantly reported. With the object of decreasing this, a Café Chantant was held in the Dome on Friday and Saturday last.

The discourtesy of the "road-hog" is now proverbial, and cycling nurses must keep a look out for him. An unfortunate accident, in which one of the nurses of the Stockton and Thornaby Nursing Home narrowly escaped injury, but in which her cycle was totally wrecked, occurred recently. The nurse was cycling out of a side street when someone drove into her. She managed to get clear herself, but the wheels of the trap went over her cycle and broke both wheels and the frame. As the driver of the horse had not the courtesy to stop and give his name and address, but rode straight away, the unfortunate lady is unable to recover for the loss of her machine, which, as may easily be imagined, has been most useful to her in her daily rounds amongst the sick poor.

There has been so great a demand recently for the services of nurses connected with the Ceylon Nursing Association that the Colonial Nursing Association has been requested by cable to expedite the departure of the next new nurse.

Writing of Nursing in West Virginia, the Editor of the *American Journal of Nursing* says: "The problems in West Virginia are practically the same as those of the older nursing centres ten or fifteen years ago. The variety of experience for training in each hospital is limited, especially as so much of the work is in connection with the mines and largely surgical. The custom of sending nurses out to earn money for the hospital is almost universal. There is no limit to the amount

of time a nurse shall spend outside of the hospital. The fact that nurses must hereafter be prepared for a State examination is beginning, however, to have a wholesome effect and there is a genuine awakening to the necessity for a more thorough and regular instruction on the part of all concerned."

An interesting little paper was read at the Annual Convention of the Nurses' Associated Alumnae at San Francisco, by Miss Mary M. May, R.N. (these two letters signify registered nurse, in all the most intellectual States of America now-a-days), on "Nursing of the Insane as part of a Three Years' Course."

Miss May writes:—

"If all general hospitals having a three years' course would supplement instruction in the theory of mental nursing by arrangements for their student nurses to spend there months, during the last year and a half of their training, in a hospital for the insane in the wards of the acute and infirmary services, it seems to the writer that the benefit accruing to all concerned would amply repay the labour which such an arrangement would necessarily entail.

Some time in the first year and a half of their course, lectures should be given in the general hospital by an alienist, who is regularly lecturing to nurses in training in a hospital for the insane. Quizzes could be held and papers could be examined by the regular teaching staff of the general hospital.

During the three months' service on the wards of a hospital for the insane, the nurses would become familiar with the most advanced methods in the nursing of the different psychoses and their etiology. This knowledge would help them to recognize conditions outside the hospitals which, if continued, might lead to serious nervous breakdown.

Frequently general hospital graduates are called upon to nurse borderland cases in private homes and, with an experience gained by actually having cared for insane patients, this responsibility could be assumed with greater confidence on the part of the nurse and of the physician employing her.

Medical colleges are paying more attention now than formerly to instructing their students in nervous and mental diseases, and physicians will expect nurses to know more about this special branch of nursing than they can possibly know without having actually worked among the insane.

Graduates of general hospitals are sometimes sought for executive and teaching positions in hospitals for the insane and if experience in the wards of such hospitals has been a part of their training, it will be much easier for them to take up their work. Such experience would be particularly valuable in any alcoholic, drug or toxic case.

An article in "Charities and the Commons" for March 7th, 1908, says of the State institutions in

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