

in a contemporary is that though the military regulations do not mention that married women may compete for nursing appointments, or that accepted candidates are permitted to marry, the conditions of leave for nurses before and after accouchement are defined, and it is also stated that when it becomes apparent that they are with child they will be employed in other parts of the hospital, not in wards. Nevertheless, we agree with Dr. Anna Hamilton that it is not seemly that nurses in this condition should be in and out of a military hospital. France seems to be the only country where married women are employed in public hospitals. Dr. Hamilton hopes for the good name of the nurses of the French Army that it will be made plain by the military authorities that only those who are legally married will be allowed to retain their titles and office, under the above circumstances.

Nursing at the Royal Infirmary, Edinburgh.

The report by the managers of the Royal Infirmary of Edinburgh for the year from 1st October, 1908, to 1st October, 1909, was presented to the annual meeting on Monday.

The following reference to the Nursing Department is highly satisfactory, and we congratulate the Lady Superintendent, Miss A. W. Gill, and her able assistants:—

NURSING DEPARTMENT.

The average number of nurses and probationers during the year was 259, as compared with 254.8 in the previous year, and of these 20 per cent. were trained nurses. There were 784 applications for admission, as compared with 675 in 1908. Sixty-seven trained nurses left during the year—one to be Matron of a cottage hospital; four to be Assistant Matrons to asylums; thirteen to be Sisters in other hospitals or nursing homes; twelve to be Queen's Nurses; one to be a District Nurse; five to be Nurses in other institutions; five to take training as Maternity Nurses; fourteen to become Private Nurses; one to join the Colonial Nursing Association; ten to return to their homes. One, a Hospital Sister, was pensioned. Three nurses left during training. Of 147 probationers eight proved unsuitable; five left of their own accord; seventy became second-year nurses; and sixty-four remained under training on 1st October, 1909. A series of lectures to trained nurses was again given during the winter months, and proved very successful, the attendance steadily increasing. The lecturers were Professor Caird, Drs. Barbour, Brewis, Norman Walker, Bruce, Fleming, Dawson Turner, and Shennan, and Messrs. Cotterill and Wallace. The annual prize-giving took place in the Nurses' Home on 6th July, the Marchioness of Tullibardine presenting the prizes. The Territorial Nursing Service was instituted in December, 1908, and twenty-two of our trained nurses enrolled

themselves as members. Sixty-five of the whole staff of 120 nurses have been trained here. The annual picnics in July were greatly enjoyed, as well as the motor rides for nurses and patients kindly arranged by Dr. Veitch. The health of the nurses has, with few exceptions, been good, and the managers desire to express their thanks to Dr. Graham Brown and Mr. Wallace for their kindness and attention to those nurses who required medical and surgical treatment during the year. Blair House continues to be of great benefit to the nurses, and the new summer-house which has been erected there has been much appreciated. The managers desire to record their warm thanks to the following members of the staff for courses of lectures and instruction to the nurses and probationers:—Dr. W. Fordyce, on Gynæcological Nursing; Mr. W. J. Stuart, on Surgical Nursing; Dr. Boyd, on Materia Medica; Dr. Shennan, on Bacteriology; Dr. Watson, on Instruments; Miss Bell, on General Nursing; Miss Bladon and Miss Millar, on Bandaging (Miss Bladon also held tutorial classes for the probationers); to Professor Thomson for kindly conducting the examinations on instruments and bandaging; and to Dr. Fleming and Mr. W. J. Stuart for having undertaken the preliminary examinations. The managers offer their grateful thanks to those friends who have shown their interest in nurses and patients by providing motor drives; to those who have so kindly provided teas in connection with these drives, or who have presented tickets for concerts, diaries and calendars, fruits, flowers, and other gifts for the nurses.

Reflections.

FROM A BOARD ROOM MIRROR.

The King has caused to be conveyed to Miss Agnes Weston, founder and head of the Royal Sailors' Rests at Portsmouth and Devonport, his Majesty's seasonable greetings to herself and staff, as well as to the Bluejackets and their families among whom they work, and expressing wishes for the continued prosperity of the institutions in the coming year.

The Rev. J. E. Watts-Ditchfield, Chairman of the Queen's Hospital for Children, Bethnal Green, appeals for a sum of £1,000 within the next few days to prevent the closing of 62 beds within the institution.

The President of the Local Government Board has appointed Dr. Eastwood, one of the pathologists of the Royal Commission on Tuberculosis, an additional medical inspector of the Board, with a special view to his undertaking pathological investigations.

The immediate object will be to apply to public health work the very important results obtained by the Royal Commission on Tuberculosis, and thereby to ensure the freedom of important foods from the infection of this disease.

The Eighth Quinquennial International Prison Congress will be held at Washington in October, 1910, by invitation of the President of the United States.

[previous page](#)

[next page](#)