

patients, to whom the afternoon must have seemed a fairy dream.

At the London Homœopathic Hospital, where Christmas is always kept in right royal style, there were Christmas trees both in the men's ward and in Barton (the children's ward) where the majority of the guests assembled. The ward was decorated with ivy interlaced so as to give the effect of trellis work, while fairy lamps and effective shades for the electric lights completed a charming picture. In one of the smaller wards was a delightful snow scene representing the North Pole, at the top of which a Teddy Bear reigned triumphant while another followed not far behind. "At night," one patient remarked confidentially, "they cover it all up with a sheet, and then it looks like a ghost," but evidently the ghost did not upset the equanimity of any one. A beautiful archway forming the doorway to one ward was specially noteworthy, and was formed of trellis work intertwined with peach blossom. Both Miss Hoadley, the Matron, and Mr. Attwood, the Secretary, are greatly to be congratulated on the success of the afternoon.

The recent extensive additions to the London Homœopathic Hospital include the "Sir Henry Tyler Wing," bringing the number of beds up to 166, and a Nurses' Home containing 75 bedrooms is about to be built. The Board are giving a separate bedroom to each nurse, and completing the new Nurses' Home with the most modern equipment in every practical detail to secure comfort, health, and hygiene for the nurses after their heavy days and nights on duty in the wards; and to rid the hospital of any reproach of having accommodation for their nursing staff inferior to that of the leading hospitals of the country, for this is an ideal compatible with the best economic results.

A most enjoyable evening was recently spent at the Nurses' Institute, Worcester, when Miss Michie, the Superintendent, kindly invited all the nurses on the staff to tea, about 50 being able to be present. After tea Miss White, on behalf of the nursing staff, presented Miss Michie with a gold watch in hunting case, with her monogram engraved outside in an exquisite design, and a suitable inscription inside. The maids of the Institute also presented Miss Michie with a gold-mounted Swan fountain pen. The watch was supplied by D. Forbes Howis, jeweller, Worcester. Songs, dances, games, and whist brought a very happy evening to a close.

The Higher Education Sub-Committee of the Notts County Education Authority recently reported that they had received an application from the Notts Branch of the Red Cross Society for their recognition of classes in sick nursing taught by a trained nurse, and not by a registered medical practitioner. The St. John Ambulance Association will not recognise or grant their certificate to any classes not taught by a doctor, and the only other certificates recognised by the War office for the purpose of forming Voluntary Aid Detachments are those granted by a County Council. The Sub-Committee recommended that the Committee should extend their ambulance grant to classes taught by a nurse approved by the Committee, and this was agreed. The theory underlying the principles of nursing is best taught by medical men, but only nurses with practical knowledge can teach practical nursing details, and the Notts Education Authority are to be congratulated on their decision.

The nurse working in connection with the Beach Mission Committee, Broughty Ferry, Dundee, is now available for maternity cases, and at the twentieth annual gathering of the Committee as a nursing association, under the presidency of the Rev. Canon Mackness, D.D., it was stated that this extension of the work had proved quite satisfactory.

Lord Ardwall sounded a warning note at a recent meeting of the Scottish Branch of the Queen Victoria Jubilee Institute for Nurses, and applied some strong adjectives to the ignorance of many working class people on matters of diet, cleanliness, and ventilation. Apparently the good old custom of living on porridge, mutton broth, eggs, oatcake, haggis, and brose is past and gone, and tea and white bread, white bread and tea have been substituted. It is asserted that the lower classes in Scotland and Ireland are at the present time more ignorant and backward in the art of cooking, more thriftless of domestic economy than those of any other country in the West of Europe. That the art of cooking is still practically unknown in spite of the extensive opportunities which School Boards now give those who are desirous of improving their knowledge is true not only in Scotland but in England, and we see the results in a feckless and anæmic population.

Several interesting subjects were under consideration at the Annual Meeting of the Visiting Nurse Association, Chicago, on Wednesday, including "The Personal Note in Social Service."

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