

Miss Gillie stated that the Association had held fourteen conferences now. The first conference was started fourteen years ago, and was attended by sixteen, and since then the scope of the Association had been widened to include Ireland, Scotland, Wales, and as far south as Birmingham and Norfolk.

Dr. Sidney Mardsen, Medical Officer for Birkenhead, associated himself with the Mayor's welcome to those present, and said that to him as Medical Officer it was a privilege to speak with absolute knowledge of the successful work which was being done by the Nursing Association and the Jubilee Nurses, which owed much of their success in the town to the organising abilities of Miss Heaton. The first thing that happened to nursing in regard to legislation was the inspection of the Local Government Board in relation to fever hospital nursing, followed by the foundation of fever hospitals all over the country, under the charge of the municipalities, and free of charge to the patients. At first locally a fee was charged, but they found a very great difficulty in getting the people to pay anything. He therefore advised the Corporation—and he thought most other medical officers did the same—that the fees ought to be abolished. That was done, and then they had no difficulty in getting the people into the hospital. That was a very important step in general nursing. Then later came the legislation with regard to medical inspection of school children. That brought to light a great deal of misery, and neglect on the part of parents towards their children. That measure was now being carried on throughout the country in a most efficient manner. It had had a beneficial effect upon the parents themselves, and on the general home life of the children, largely due to the visiting of the nurses in the homes. The measure had resulted in such an advance in the development of the children and their home life that the Government had recently arranged for it to be carried further, and for the children to be examined additionally whilst they were attending school as well as at the ages of entering and leaving. And the tendency was to still further advance in that respect, and quite recently a scheme had been put forward in Birkenhead for the care of the nursing mother and of the child from birth to the time when it went to school and came under the school medical authorities.

A vote of thanks to the Mayor and the local committee for their hospitality was agreed to with enthusiasm.

At the conclusion of the meeting the visitors

and several members of the Birkenhead Committee were entertained to luncheon at the Town Hall by the kind invitation of the Mayor, the Mayoress presiding.

It was agreed that the Conference was a great success.

THE IRISH NURSES' ASSOCIATION.

On St. Patrick's Day, at the Hostel, 34, St. Stephen's Green, the Irish Nurses' Association held their annual meeting, which was followed by a most enjoyable social gathering. The attendance was good, all sections being well represented.

The following resolution was brought before the meeting and passed unanimously:—"That the monthly meetings of the Irish Nurses' Association be thrown open to all members to attend and discuss business."

N.B.—These monthly meetings are held on the first Saturday of the month at 34, St. Stephen's Green, at 8 p.m., except during the months of July, August, and September, when no meetings are held.

This resolution was brought forward with a view to getting the nurses to take a deeper and more personal interest in the work that is being done by the Association to uphold the standard of their profession.

The office-bearers for the ensuing year were elected as follows:—President, Miss Holden, Matron, Richmond Hospital; Vice-President, Miss MacDonnell, R.R.C., Matron, Dublin Castle Hospital; Hon. Secretary, Miss Reeves, Matron, Royal Victoria Eye and Ear Hospital; Finance Committee, Miss Carson Rae, Matron, The Hostel, 34, St. Stephen's Green; Miss Keatinge, Matron, National Maternity Hospital, Holles Street; Miss Thornton, Matron, Sir Patrick Dun's Hospital.

Tea was served before the meeting, and a hearty vote of thanks was passed to the members of the Executive Committee for their great kindness in giving the tea and for the trouble they took to make the evening a happy and enjoyable one for all.

After the meeting a "Character Advertisement Competition" and dance took place. Prizes for the three best costumes, which were decided by vote, were given by Miss Huxley, Miss Reed, and Miss Ramsden, and were presented by Miss O'Flynn to the successful competitors, who were as follows:—1st, "Buchanan's Whisky," Miss Cummings, Richmond Hospital; 2nd, "Navy Cut," Miss Shanagher, Richmond Hospital; 3rd, "Bew-

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