

were directly responsible for the maintenance of seven Queen's Nurses and twenty-two candidates receiving instruction in the Training Home. Eight candidates had completed their training during the period, six of whom were now engaged in district work at Ellon, Lochgilphead, Vale of Teith, Tollcross (Glasgow), Edinburgh (temporary), and Wick. The nurses' work in sixty-nine affiliated districts had been inspected, and reports thereon submitted to the Executive Committee. 1,061 cases had been nursed in Edinburgh by the nurses from the Training Home, involving a total of 18,463 visits. Donations received during the quarter amounted to £116, and subscriptions to £239.

We regret to learn that the nursing staffs in the hospitals of the Metropolitan Asylums Board have suffered severely in the influenza epidemic. Over three hundred nurses and ward attendants have been attacked by the disease, and the death roll is eleven.

NATIONAL UNION OF TRAINED NURSES.

Under the auspices of the National Union of Trained Nurses a Meeting to consider the influence on the Nation of a Ministry of Health will be held at the College of Ambulance, 3, Vere Street, Oxford Street, W., on Saturday, November 23rd, at 2.30 p.m. The Rev. H. R. L. Sheppard, rector of St. Martin's-in-the-Fields, will be in the Chair, and the speakers will be Dr. Saleeby and Miss H. L. Pearse.

Dr. Saleeby will speak on What a Ministry of Health can do for: (a) The Babies of the Nation; (b) The Children of the Nation; (c) The Workers of the Nation.

Miss Helen Pearse will speak on "The Need of the Co-operation of the Trained Nurse in the effective working of a Ministry of Health."

All interested are cordially asked to attend and to bring friends. Entrance free.

The Employment Bureau of the N.U.T.N. assists Nurses in finding permanent posts, and now that demobilisation is within sight it should have a very busy time.

The N.U.T.N. is bringing its "Statement" on "Nurses' Salaries" issued in 1916 up to date. The notes in connection with this Statement touch on the economic conditions of the nursing profession. It is the aim of the Union to help to raise the salaries to such a level as will make them correspond with the value of the work done by the nurses.

THE GAS INDUSTRY AND PUBLIC SERVICE.

At the seventh Annual General Meeting of the British Commercial Gas Association, held at the Royal Society of Arts, John Street, Adelphi, W.C. 2, on Wednesday afternoon, October 16th, the President, Sir Hallelwell Rogers, J.P., in introducing the incoming President, Lord Moulton, P.C., K.C.B., F.R.S., Director-General of Explosives Supplies, said that apart from its prompt action in meeting the need for explosives in the early days of the war and in releasing men for the fighting forces, and experts for the laboratories, the gas industry had done invaluable work for the country in the quick improvisation of depots, canteens, hospitals, and other establishments of the militant army, and of factories and workshops for the industrial army. It had set itself to providing fuel oil for the Navy; had furnished the farmer with cheap and indispensable fertilisers; had been an important source of ammonia supply; and, last, but not least, had furnished enormous supplies of gaseous fuel to munitions works of all kinds, as well as in increasing quantities to all branches of industry and to the homes of the people.

THE SURGICAL MANUFACTURING COMPANY.

A visit to the Surgical Manufacturing Company's show rooms at 83 and 85, Mortimer Street, London, W. 1, by those desirous of securing invalid furniture and appliances will be well repaid, for the firm are the makers of the goods which they supply, and thus can secure the quality of the materials used, and supervise the workmanship which means so much in fashioning articles of this kind.

A special advantage offered by the firm is that invalid furniture, spinal carriages, bath chairs, water beds and cushions can be had in the first instance on hire, and, if purchased subsequently during the first month, they will be charged at the List Price, less any amounts paid in advance for hire. The advantage of such an arrangement is apparent. Private nurses, for instance, often hesitate to ask a patient's friends to buy an expensive appliance which after all may not meet his needs, or may not be wanted for long, but if it can be hired at a moderate cost with the option of purchase, they will often do so.

We were particularly struck by a rest chair made for American Convalescent Hospitals at the low cost of 30s. Back and arms are both at an angle which is most restful and, when not in use, the chair folds up and can be tucked away. A bed table, costing 10s. 6d., also packs flat when not required. We must not forget to mention that the establishment is open day and night, and that operation outfits (with which dressings are included) can be hired for 25s., and an operation table for 7s. 6d.

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