

A meeting of the Executive Committee of the Central Council for District Nursing in London was recently held at the Ministry of Health. Sir Francis Morris was in the chair. The council has this year distributed £4,553 among the 56 district nursing associations working in and around London which are affiliated to it. A directory published by the council, which shows every street where the nearest district nurse can be obtained, has been found invaluable for hospital almoners and social workers. Bursaries have also been awarded to district nurses wishing to take up midwifery.

The address of the Central Council after January 1st will be 12, Whitehall, S.W.1.

The Central Public Health Committee of the London County Council have approved proposals for the issue of certificates and badges to nurses employed in hospitals and institutions allocated as hospitals under their direction. The badges proposed to be issued will be enamelled, and will bear the council's coat-of-arms, and also the name of the hospital at which the nurse to whom it is issued is serving.

The "War Nurse," a Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer Picture recently running at the Empire Theatre, is a vulgar travesty of American nurses during the Great War, when their devotion to their duties, commanded the gratitude of their patients and the admiration of the world.

We hear that when the tenor of the film became known the Californian Nurses' Association did their utmost to prevent its appearance, as did also the American Nurses' Association, but in vain. The utmost concession they could obtain was that there should be an announcement that it did not represent the regular nurses. Now night after night it has been presented in London. All we can say is that setting aside the scheme of the film, its language is almost unintelligible and that we never heard such jargon either on this or the other side of the Atlantic amongst our American colleagues.

"War Nurse" represents a volunteer nurse who forgot her duty to her country, her colleagues, her patients and herself, and occupied a considerable part of her time in love making and being made love to—result an illegitimate baby, which fortunately was mothered by the only nurse-like girl in the film—our American colleagues have our sympathy.

The Journal of the Leicester Royal Infirmary Nurses' League just to hand is full of good things. Amongst many items of interest it records that since last November 51 Nurses have entered for training and 28 Nurses have completed their training and gained the Hospital certificate.

38 Nurses have entered for the Final State Examination and 28 have become State Registered Nurses.

On two occasions the examinations have been held at the Hospital.

Arrangements have now been made for Probationers to attend the Domestic Science College whilst they are in the Preliminary Training School for a course of lessons in Sick Room Cookery and Dietetics. Visits are also paid in connection with their Hygiene Lectures to Dairies and Milk Depots, to the Sewage Works, Water Works, Gas and Electricity Works, and to a

factory to study factory conditions and ventilation. We hope these visits will help the Nurses in their Work.

To help during the difficulty in shortage of Senior Staff, two Charge Nurses from other Training Schools have been appointed. Three International Students have been received for special training, 1 from Norway, 1 from Denmark, and 1 from Austria.

A Housekeeping Course has been started and 3 pupils are received at a time for 6 months. At present the course is being taken by Miss Holroyde and Miss Key.

Four members of the Nursing Staff have had the advantage of the C.M.B. Scholarship offered by the Hospital and taken at Bond Street. Miss B. Dakin and Miss E. A. White both hold the certificate, and Miss G. Harris and Miss D. Barker have just completed the course.

An extraordinary scene at the Newcastle Dental Hospital had its sequel in the Police Court when Mrs. Florence Stobbard, the Matron was fined 30s. on charges of being drunk and disorderly and assaulting the caretaker by pulling her hair, and pushing her backwards. The caretaker fled to the Board Room where a meeting was in progress, and surgeons present went to her assistance. Ten minutes later the Matron renewed the attack and was rescued by three surgeons.

On reading the above we at once made a bee line for the State Register of Nurses and to our relief found that the name of Florence Stobbard did not appear there, lest the lenient and sentimental General Nursing Council for England and Wales declined to perform their disciplinary duty.

Nurses have proverbially a strong affection for their Alma Mater and not infrequently demonstrate this in terms of hard cash. Some years ago the League of St. Bartholomew's Hospital Nurses endowed a bed in the hospital with a donation of £1,000, and have now given a like amount for a similar purpose. Now we learn that the nursing staff at King's College Hospital, Denmark Hill, who gave up their Christmas dinner in order to help the hospital, have collected over £800 in three weeks for this purpose. Hospitals have no more loyal supporters than the nurses trained in their nursing schools.

It is glad news that a Committee has been formed to organise a revival of the pageant, "The Acts of Rahere," which was given in the Church of St. Bartholomew's the Great last spring. This marvellous spectacle will bring the financial support of which the rector is so greatly in need.

At a meeting held in the Church Hall Dregghorn Loan, Colinton, on December 20th at which the Rev. Thomas Marjoribanks presided, Nurse Beekie was presented, on her retirement after 35 years' service as district nurse in Colinton and Juniper Green, with a testimonial from over 1,100 people in the district. The testimonial which consisted of a wallet, containing a cheque, together with a bound volume with the names of the subscribers, was presented by Miss Trotter, after which a musical programme followed.

It is always a source of wonderment to our friends on the other side of the Atlantic how often Nurses in Great Britain settle down to one post for the whole of their professional lives.

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