

Nursing Echoes.

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THE Duke of Westminster has announced that the organisation of the Queen's Commemoration Fund on behalf of the Queen's Jubilee Nurses is now in fair working order, and the sum already subscribed is over £24,000.

WE must own we are entirely out of sympathy with balls in hospitals and infirmaries, and since reading of the orgies depicted by Mr. Hall Caine at an imaginary function of the kind, we hope that the governors and guardians of hospitals for the sick will put down these festivities with a firm hand. It is deeply to be regretted that by such gatherings, however well conducted, "the enemy" finds just reason "to blaspheme," and discredit is brought upon the institutions where they are permitted. Nurses have now liberal hours off duty, and have no difficulty in occasionally obtaining extension of leave. We maintain, therefore, that if they must dance it should be outside the hospital gates, and that the feelings of the sick poor and their friends should be so far respected, that recreation, otherwise harmless, should not be indulged in under the roof provided to shelter sickness and suffering. We hear that "infirmaries dances" are to be brought to the notice of the Local Government Board, with the hope that it will put its *veto* upon this special form of recreation amongst its nursing staff for the future.

ON Friday, January 29th inst., at Havergal Hall, a preliminary meeting was held with a view to forming a Nurses' Club for Bournemouth and its locality. Miss Christina Forrest, late Matron of the York Hospital, and now Lady Superintendent of the Victoria Nurses' Institute, Bournemouth, very kindly took the chair. After a few remarks from this lady, Miss Scott, late Matron of the Sussex County Hospital, was introduced to the meeting, and proceeded to explain the objects of the proposed club. Suggestions from the ladies present were invited, and were followed by discussion. Through illness, as well as pressure of work, many ladies were absent who had promised their warm support.

But it was proposed by Miss Forrest, and seconded by Miss Scott, that the scheme for forming the club be very seriously considered, and a list was made at the close of the meeting of ladies wishing to become members.

The proposed club hopes to offer to its members—

- (1) A quiet resting room, supplied with daily papers, monthly magazines, and writing tables.
- (2) A free lending library.
- (3) Quarterly lectures on subjects apart from the Nursing Profession.
- (4) Social gatherings.
- (5) Provision of afternoon tea daily.

It was further proposed that should the club be established, the same should be open daily from 11 a.m. to 9 p.m., except on Sundays, when the hours should be from 2 to 6 p.m.

The suggested charges for nurses' subscriptions were: 5s. quarterly, 3s. monthly, 1s. weekly. By arranging for a monthly and a weekly subscription, it was hoped that nurses visiting Bournemouth, either for rest or with their patients, might enjoy the advantages of the club. The Matrons of the various hospitals and homes in the locality have united in advancing the scheme, and would form part of the committee of management should the club be established, but it was agreed as well that on the committee there should be twelve nurses, elected yearly by their colleagues.

The following ladies will be pleased to receive the names of those wishing to form this club, as well as any suggestions as to the working of the same:—Miss Sybil Airy, Matron, Victoria Hospital; Miss Christina Forrest, Matron, Victoria Nurses' Institute; Miss Maguire, Matron, Firs Home; Miss Mellersh, Matron, Herbert Home; Miss Milne, Matron, Poole Hospital; Miss White, Matron, Boscombe Hospital; Miss Snudden, Matron, The Haven; Deaconess Palmer, St. Luke's Home; Mrs. Barsham (late of St. Bartholomew's Hospital, London), Knyveton Road; Mrs. Thelwall, The Lawn Lodge, Christchurch Road; Miss Scott (late Matron, Sussex County Hospital), Inglewood, Poole Road. We heartily congratulate these ladies upon their enterprise, and feel sure that an institution organised by nurses for nurses will be a great success.

WE regret to learn that Mrs. Goslett—who as a lecturer on hygiene and sanitation can speak with authority—is to take for the subject of her

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