

out the necessity of increased accommodation for patients, and complimented the Matron (Miss McGahey) on the success of the Prince Alfred Hospital Training School for Nurses. At the close of the Meeting the Hon. Dorothy Brand very kindly presented the prizes to the nurses. The following is a list of the nurses who obtained prizes:—1st year—Prob. Phillips, 1st prize; Prob. Hayley, 2nd prize. 2nd year—Nurses Matchett and Mackenzie, 1st prize (equal number of marks); Nurse Black, 2nd prize. 3rd year—Nurse Pickburne, 1st prize; Nurse Jones, 2nd prize. 3rd year, Special prizes for bedmaking—Nurse Jones, 1st prize; Nurse Wickham, 2nd prize. Special prize for bandaging, 3rd year—Nurse Harrison. Special prize for general ward work, Nurse Mackenzie. Invalid cookery, Special prizes—Probs. Whittingham and Somerville. This year the prizes were given by Sir Alfred Roberts, Mrs. J. R. Fairfax, Mrs. Knox, Mrs. J. S. Mitchell, Miss Harris, Mrs. T. J. Thompson, Mrs. F. Mitchell, Miss Mitchell, and Mrs. Harris (Ultimo House).

WHEN the prize distribution was over the guests were entertained to afternoon tea in the Sisters' and Nurses' Sitting Rooms. Afterwards the "Home" was inspected, and several took the opportunity of visiting the wards and the operating theatre. The operating theatre at Prince Alfred Hospital is the most modern one in the southern hemisphere. About twelve months ago it was completely renovated and fitted up to meet the requirements of modern surgery. The guests expressed themselves as very pleased with the pleasant afternoon they spent in the Nurses' Home and Hospital.

THE Annual Report of the Prince Alfred Hospital shows a splendid year's work, the average daily number of patients being 225, and the operations performed in the year amounted to 1,600. From the report we learn

"The administration of the Hospital continues to be much indebted to the great interest taken by the Secretary in its welfare, and to his tact in working the departments under his control. A similar spirit of loyalty to the interests of the Hospital has been shown by the Administrative Staff."

"The Matron has continued to bestow upon the arduous duties of her post an ever constant and thoughtful attention, and her conspicuous ability and energy in the oversight of the Nursing Staff and in all the multifarious duties of her office are worthy of all praise. To her unwearying efforts are largely due the high standard of excellency which characterises the staff under her supervision, and which is in part borne witness to by the results of the annual examinations, practical and theoretical."

"The Nursing Staff has continued to uphold the high character for proficiency and general behaviour

which it has attained in previous years. Its members show themselves trustworthy and energetic in the discharge of duty, and it is a high tribute to their attainments as candidates for a certificate of training that at the annual examinations in December, conducted by the same examiners as heretofore, every one of the candidates was successful in passing her yearly examination."

WE have heard rumours that some of the nurses engaged on Plague Duty in Bombay have not been very generously treated by the Plague Committee. The following extract from the *Bombay Gazette* proves that the pay and allowances of the nurses have by no means a Klondike ring about them.

THE PAY OF THE NURSES.

"With reference to the complaints that have been made respecting the alleged ungenerous treatment of the Plague Committee towards the nurses sent out to India by the Secretary of State, we have made careful enquiries and obtained the following facts:—Nearly all the nurses were paid on or before the 8th April, but those about whose pay there was a special question were not paid until a later date. They were Misses Bradshaw, Hayland, Murphy, and Riley, and their account for March stood as under:—

	Rs.	a.	p.
Pay as agreed by the Secretary of State ..	175	0	0
Recovery of advances as advised by the Accountant-General .. . . . . .	58	5	0
	116 10 0		
Recovery of boarding charges on their arrival from home as advised by the Accountant General .. . . . . .	15	0	0
	101 10 0		
Food supplied by the committee's contractor at the rate of Re. 1-8 per day .. . . . . .	46	3	0
	55 2 0		
(The arrangement with the contractor was that the committee would pay him one rupee over and above Re. 1-8 and recover the same from the nurses.)			
Recovery of boarding charges before they were provided with free quarters at Narelwady Hospital .. . . . . .	51	0	0
	4 2 8		

The Income Tax to be recovered next month, as there was not a sufficient balance.

When the above matter was brought to the notice of the committee by the Accountant, the committee regretted that after a hard month's work the nurses should have so little left to them as Rs. 4-2-8. Though each individual member wished to help the nurses, he had not the authority to grant any concession without the general approval and sanction of the committee. The matter was placed before the committee at the meeting held on the 22nd instant, when it was resolved to refund the sum of Rs. 51 on account of the boarding charges, which has now been done. From the above facts and figures it would appear that the Plague Committee have only been following the orders of Government as laid down by the Accountant-General,

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