

Nursing Echoes.

* * All communications must be duly authenticated with name and address, not for publication, but as evidence of good faith, and should be addressed to the Editor, 20, Upper Wimpole Street, W.



SOME good appointments are falling to those nurses who have not been selected for service at the front, notably two of the fine fever hospitals under the Metropolitan Asylums Board, the Park Hospital, Hither Green, and the Grove Hospital, Tooting, which are now vacant. The Matronship of the Wolverhampton and Staffordshire General Hospital, an important hospital, of over 200 beds, is also vacant, owing to the fact that the Matron is proceeding to South Africa.

NURSES who are thinking of taking up work as sanitary officers, a field of usefulness for which their professional training in many ways qualifies them, should write to the Secretary of the Sanitary Institute, at the Parkes Museum, Margaret Street, for information as to the examinations in sanitary knowledge, conducted by the Institute. This body has instituted examinations for inspectors of nuisances, inspectors of meat and other foods, in practical sanitary science, and in practical hygiene for school teachers. It has issued an interesting pamphlet, with relation to these examinations, price 6d., which is worthy of the attention of would-be sanitary officers.

THE Local Government Board has stated to the St. Saviour's Guardians, that they could not express any opinion as to the legality of the proposed expenditure for a piano for the use of the nurses at the Newington Workhouse, as the question depended upon whether the piano was reasonably required to enable the nurses to do their duty, and could not be provided by them. The Guardians apparently were of opinion that it came under this heading, as it was resolved, upon the motion of the Rev. J. W. Horsley, to purchase the instrument.

At a recent meeting, the Medical Superintendent of the Camberwell Infirmary brought to the notice of the Infirmary Visiting Committee that seven vacancies existed on the nursing staff for which candidates were not forthcoming. He therefore suggested the appointment of six further probationers. Owing to the difficulty of obtaining nurses, this was agreed to.

THE sketch plan of the infirmary extension has now been approved by the Local Government Board, subject to slight modifications. We hope this may be pushed on with all speed. When the Guardians have a suitable Nurses' Home, we think they will find that their difficulty in procuring nurses is greatly lessened.

A PLEASANT ceremony took place last week at Ashwellthorpe, Watford, when Mr. F. Sumner Knyvett, the Treasurer of the Watford Cottage Hospital, presented to Miss Kayes, the late Matron of the Hospital, on behalf of the Committee, a bowl, bearing the inscription, "Presented to Miss C. M. Kayes by the Committee of the Watford District Hospital, in recognition of four years' valuable work as Matron." The medical staff of the Hospital also presented Miss Kayes with a handsome set of toilet brushes, accompanied by a letter expressing their appreciation of her work as Matron of the Hospital. Thanks for work well done are always gratifying, and we congratulate Miss Kayes on the recognition accorded to her.

At a recent meeting of the Bristol Board of Guardians a list of proposed rules governing the duties of nurses at the Workhouse was submitted. Mr. Bastow asked why the term "sister" was used instead of "nurse." Was not "nurse" a good old Anglo-Saxon word? The Chairman replied that "sister" was a recognised term throughout the country for a Charge Nurse, as a distinction from the nurse who worked under her. Mr. Withers proposed as an amendment that they should stick to the term "nurse." Mr. Ring seconded, and said that "sister" was a Romish innovation. The amendment was carried.

WE are sorry that the amendment was carried, as we consider the use of the title of Sister in connection with the Head Nurse of the ward very advisable. It at once indicates her position, and gives her prestige, both in the eyes of the patients and of junior nurses. We do not think that the Guardian who stated that the term "sister" is a Romish innovation, can maintain his assertion, for at St. Bartholomew's Hospital, at its foundation in the twelfth century, the nurses were termed Sisters, and the name is still retained, in the case of the head nurse of the ward, at the present day. Strictly speaking, no doubt the term is a relic of pre-reformation days, when the nursing sisters belonged to religious orders. After Henry VIII., of odious memory, disestablished the religious houses and annexed their revenues, seculars were put in charge of the nursing, but the term "sister"

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