

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* * * All communications must be duly authenticated with name and address, not for publication, but as evidence of good faith, and should be addressed to the Editor, 20, Upper Wimpole Street, W.



Mesdames Ernest and François Carnot, the daughters-in-law of the ill-fated President of the Republic who concluded the alliance with the Tsar Alexander III., are organising a hospital with 100 beds for the Russian wounded. They have sent invitations to upwards of 400 friends to join them in this humane task, and they will set to work at the house of their mother Madame Chiris, in the Avenue d'Iéna, with a large party of kind assistants. These ladies are to devote particular attention to the preparation of lint, of which no fewer than 60,000 pieces are to be got ready, and a number of other necessaries will be added, so that the hospital will by their care be provided with every requirement. The Carnots have all along maintained the most friendly relations with the Imperial family, and their kind thought will be much appreciated.

A telegram from Tokio says:—"The subscriptions to the war bonds, the gifts to the new fund, and the contributions to war charities are all exceedingly large. Count Matsugata and Count Inouye report that subscriptions approaching a million yen (£100,000) and donations totalling 250,000 yen (£25,000) have already been paid to the war fund. A Soldiers' Relief Society is being promoted, and hundreds of applications have been received from members of the army and navy for permission to contribute to the Society's funds, the amounts thus offered amounting to 250,000 yen (£25,000). A Ladies' Patriotic Society, largely composed of peeresses and wives of nobles, is raising a subscription in aid of the Red Cross Society, which already possesses a large fund and has a widespread organisation in Japan."

The Japanese ladies who have been stripping themselves of their jewellery and offering it as a contribution towards the expenses of the war are but following the example of those German women who so willingly poured their personal treasures of gold and precious stones into the depleted exchequer of their Fatherland during the Napoleonic wars. Germany's financial resources had nearly come to an end, and it became necessary to appeal to the women for their contributions. The

appeal was received with universal enthusiasm, thousands of loyal *Fraus* and *Fräuleins* collected every article of personal adornment and gave them to the Government, receiving in exchange for each ring, bracelet, or necklace a similar ornament in iron as a memento of their patriotism. Hundreds of these memorials are still preserved by the descendants of their original owners, and are, naturally, valued at far more than their "weight in gold."

The Report of the Nurses' Co-operation, 8, New Cavendish Street, W., for the past year shows that the prosperity of the Society has been well maintained, the number of cases attended being 6,183, and, in spite of an admittedly slack year, there is an increase of £1,153 in the receipts. The nurses who joined the Co-operation in the first five years of its existence receive their own earnings, less 5 per cent., and the Committee now feel justified in adding the names of those who joined up to 1898 to the list of those who will benefit by the reduced percentage in 1904.

The popularity of the Howard de Walden Nurses' Home, Club, and Restaurant continues to increase, and, in compliance with the urgent request of many nurses, twelve additional beds in a flat near the Club have now been secured. Under the superintendence of Miss Laura Baker the Committee report the administrative department to be entirely satisfactory.

In connection with this Home it must be noted that half of the loan made by the late Lady Howard de Walden (for twenty-one years, if desired) was paid off in 1902 and the remainder in 1903. The balance-sheet shows, on the other hand, that £434 6s. 7d. has been paid from the General Account to that of the Home. Still, the Club and Restaurant are the greatest convenience to all members, and if it is their wish that their Committee should spend their money in this way, it concerns them and no one else. In a year or two doubtless the Home will be quite self-supporting.

All Matrons and Sisters of hospitals concerned in obtaining convalescent letters for patients know how difficult it is to procure one for a surgical patient whose wounds still need dressing. We are glad, therefore, to note that a scheme is on foot to establish a "recovery hospital" for the treatment of surgical convalescents. Lord Lytton recently presided at an influential drawing-room meeting at his residence, 32, Queen Anne's Gate, S.W., with this object in view, when he announced that the scheme had the support of Princess Louise, Duchess of Argyll. Such a hospital would meet a great want. At the same time, now the value of fresh air in the treatment of surgical cases is increasingly recognised, it is surely time that all con-

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