

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* * * All communications must be duly authenticated with name and address, not for publication, but as evidence of good faith, and should be addressed to the Editor, 20, Upper Wimpole Street, W.



We welcome with pleasure the second number of the *Queen's Nurses' Magazine*, which is fully up to the standard of its predecessor, and is full of interesting news. *Queen's Nurses* may well be proud of their dainty magazine, which deserves, and we are glad to learn is receiving, their cordial support.

Amongst other items of interest is an account from the Stornoway nurse of the invasion of her little hospital by the rescued emigrants from the wreck of the *Norge*. She wrote:—"We have twenty-one cases in hospital—Norwegians, Swedes, and Russians; thirteen are children, of whom two died last night. They are all very badly frost-bitten. The hospital is fairly besieged with visitors." The nurses had day and night work for eleven days, and there were seven deaths in all.

At the Annual Meeting of the Bangor (Ireland) District Nursing Society Lady Helen Munro Ferguson spoke, as she always does, comprehendingly and sympathetically of the work of nurses. She said the district nurse was able to do more to raise the standard of health and hygiene than an army of sanitary inspectors, because the nurse enters the house to give much-needed help, while the sanitary inspector's visits are often regarded with suspicion and distrust. Lady Helen spoke incidentally in favour of Registration for Nurses. She said she thought district nursing required further development in the direction of providing nurses for the well-to-do artisan class who could pay something for skilled nursing though a resident nurse was beyond their means. In conclusion, Lady Helen said the life of a district nurse was an anxious and lonely one. Her work was sufficiently depressing. She generally had no personal ties in the district, and, if she was to maintain the buoyancy of spirit essential to her work, she needed sympathy and a little change and variety in her life. It was not sufficient for the nurse to meet with encouragement and applause once a year at the annual meeting; the district nurse is doing a great national service, and it can only be requited by extending to her in a practical way much kindness and friendship.

The Whitechapel Board of Guardians, at their last meeting, directed that a letter be sent to Nurse Woods, who is employed at the Board's schools at

Grays, Essex, thanking her for an act of generous devotion. The nurse had sat up for four days and four nights with a sick child, whose life had been saved by her unremitting attention.

It is noticeable how the value of the services of nurses in connection with elementary schools is becoming increasingly appreciated. The first half-yearly report of the Derby Medical Officer of Health to the Education Committee, in reference to the health of the school children of that town, has just been published. It states that of the cases of skin eruptions, the majority were ringworm or contagious impetigo. Cases so suffering are frequently sent home, and the Medical Officer believes that the efforts put forth by people having control of these children are not such as tend to their rapid recovery, and he recommends the appointment of a trained nurse, whose duty it shall be to make regular visits of inspection to cases of ringworm, impetigo, and like ailments. At the present time, two nurses are engaged by the Sanitary Committee on two afternoons a week each. If the work were extended to the remaining three afternoons an increased attendance at school and an improvement in this objectionable condition would, he believes, result.

As a result of a resolution passed at a public meeting held under the auspices of the Wiltshire Nursing Association in April last, it has been decided to establish, for Swindon and the county, a training home for nurses. For this purpose a house has been taken at 16, Milton Road, Swindon; a superintendent nurse and a midwife have been appointed by the County Committee; and it is proposed to open the home on October 1st for training purposes. Ladies of the County Committee undertake to provide the necessary furniture, &c., for the bedrooms, leaving the Swindon Committee to collect or buy furniture for two sitting-rooms for the superintendent and the midwife, and for the dining-room or probationer's sitting-room, and also kitchen furniture sufficient for seven persons. The home will at first be used for training purposes only. Presumably, the training will be given in the homes of the poor—a most valuable training if it is received after general principles have been learnt in a hospital, but instruction in hospital wards should, in our view, always form the foundation of a nurse's training.

The nurses of the Cumberland Nursing Association have presented Miss Greenwood, who has held the office of Superintendent of the Association for four years, and during that time has discharged her duties in a manner which has been highly appreciated by the nurses under her direction, with a handsome travelling bag. Miss Greenwood is about to go to Bangalore to take charge of a Mission Hospital there, and the nurses, of whom there are about thirty in various districts, felt that she ought to

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