

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* * * *All communications must be duly authenticated with name and address, not for publication, but as evidence of good faith, and should be addressed to the Editor, 20, Upper Wimpole Street, W.*



Her Majesty Queen Alexandra has been pleased to approve of the appointment, to date from July 1st, of a long list of "Queen's Nurses," eighty-four for work in England, sixteen for Wales, twenty for Scotland, and twelve for Ireland. The work of the Institute, which grows increasingly popular all over the United Kingdom, is governed by a Central Council

—with branches in Scotland and Ireland—and the work of the nurses is constantly inspected. Until this central authority was organised, district nursing was in a very unequal condition in various parts of the United Kingdom. Co-ordination has worked wonders and greatly benefited the sick poor.

The Queen, the President of the Fund, has consented to present certificates on the 22nd inst. at Buckingham Palace to those nurses who have joined the Royal National Pension Fund for Nurses since Her Majesty's last reception in 1901. This is the sixth time that Her Majesty has invited the nurses of the Fund. On the former occasions the receptions were held in the grounds of Marlborough House.

While commending their good intentions, it must be regretted that English ladies with mistaken zeal have gone out to Tokio and offered their services to the Japan War Office. This has been very embarrassing to the authorities, who have declined the services, of course, but with extreme courtesy. There are thousands of Japanese women, fully trained as nurses, and as sympathetic and as expert as any of our own. Then they naturally understand their own people far better than any English woman can, especially when she cannot speak the language.

A long discussion took place at the meeting of the General Purposes Committee of the Cardiff Seamen's Hospital on Monday on a report of a deputation to the trustees under the late Marquis of Bute's will. The deputation waited upon the trustees in the hope of making some arrangement as regards the clause in the will which required that, if possible, the nursing at the institution should be entirely undertaken by a Roman Catholic sisterhood. Alderman David Jones, who was in the chair, said that the

trustees were unwilling to agree to any modification of the desire expressed in the testator's will. It was also stated that if this were rigidly put into effect there would be extreme difficulty in obtaining the money necessary to maintain the hospital, and the Committee finally resolved:—

"That we cannot agree that any department of the hospital shall be carried on under the management of any religious body or any guild or sisterhood of such body."

It was announced that Lord Bute had subscribed a further sum of £1,700 towards the building fund, bringing the total contributions, inclusive of the site, from this source to £11,700.

It transpires that the main object of the Donegal motor tour of the Lord-Lieutenant of Ireland was in connection with the administration of the Countess Dudley's scheme for providing nurses for the very poor in the congested districts. Already ten nurses are at work, and, thanks to the generosity of the public, arrangements are ripe for two additional nurses. The object of his Excellency's visit to Arranmore Island on Saturday was to see the result of the work of Nurse M'Mahon, who was appointed to the island under the scheme. The progress of nursing work on the island is regarded as most encouraging. Throughout his tour his Excellency has directed inquiries as to centres in which the two additional nurses could most advantageously be placed. It is understood the Lord-Lieutenant has greatly enjoyed his tour, though the state of the roads in some parts has been found far from suitable for motor-car purposes.

Whilst many of our very insular hospital managers and Matrons are doing all in their power to prevent trained nursing in this country being placed on a sound, educational, and industrial basis, the wonderful sympathy and encouragement extended to the rank and file by the superintendents of training-schools in the States is having very far-reaching effects.

The American nurse is quietly going forward, and is just working wonders by her courage and energy. In Paris she has quite superseded in private families the indifferently-educated English nurse, who does not even take the trouble to learn the language before offering her services in a professional capacity, and from Germany, Sweden and Norway, Greece, and Japan women are going to the United States for training.

In Italy our International Secretary, Miss L. L. Dock, writes of the work of Miss Baxter and her Italian nurses in Naples to her colleagues in the Johns Hopkins Alumnae Magazine:—

"Perhaps few, at least of the younger nurses, will realise what it meant to establish a successful training-school on modern lines in Italy, as Miss Baxter has

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