

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\* \* \* *All communications must be duly authenticated with name and address, not for publication, but as evidence of good faith, and should be addressed to the Editor, 20, Upper Wimpole Street, W.*



It is an open secret that for months past there has been a determined attempt to have Sir Henry Burdett's nominee appointed Treasurer of St. Bartholomew's Hospital, upon the retirement of Sir Trevor Lawrence, and that the suggestion aroused a very strong feeling of antagonism upon the part of those who have no desire to see this splendid old charity handed over to newspaper government. It is not too much to say, therefore, that the election by the Governors on Thursday, January 26th, of Lord Ludlow to this important office was welcomed with a heartfelt sigh of relief by a large majority of the interns, to say nothing of the real friends of the hospital outside. Lord Ludlow is a man who is reported to be well-equipped for the office, and there is little doubt that an immense amount of work is awaiting his consideration.

At an early date we hope he will appoint a committee to inquire into the educational system of the nurses; in spite of tremendous hard work upon the part of the nursing officials, headed by the Matron, there is little doubt that the curriculum of the nursing-school wants bringing thoroughly up to date, and it is to be hoped that the new Treasurer will take a personal interest in this important branch of the hospital's work. Nursing matters of late years have been referred to the medical Board, with the result that they have not received the consideration which is their due from the House Committee which is primarily responsible for the Nursing Department. Let us hope a good time is coming.

At the last meeting of the Lewisham Board of Guardians several of the nurses on the infirmary staff were called in to be presented with their final certificates, they having passed their examination. The chairman, Mr. W. Brown, said he was pleased that they had resolved to enter on one of the highest, most intellectual, and humane of professions. The system of training followed for some years in the Lewisham Infirmary had been very successful. He hoped their future career would be as successful as their period of training in the infirmary had been, as shown by the certificates he was about to present to them. The nurses then went up and received the certificates from the Chairman.

It was decided that Staff Nurses Ellis and Hope, having resigned on the completion of their training, Nurse-Probationers Hankins and Edmonds be promoted as Staff Nurses; and that Rachel Jevons and Florence Llewellyn Blakiston be appointed Nurse Probationers upon the approved terms, subject to two months on trial.

The Infirmary Committee reported that fourteen nurses had passed the Nurses' Sick Room Cookery Examinations most satisfactorily.

In recognition of invaluable services, which for a number of years Nurse Routledge has rendered to the sick and infirm of Castle Donington, she has been presented with a testimonial on the occasion of her leaving the town. Upwards of 400 persons contributed, and the sum of £27 8s. was subscribed. Nurse Routledge carries with her the good wishes of all classes of the community. She has been succeeded by Nurse Rackham, who has already made many friends by her kindly ministrations. The whole of the expense incident upon the provision of a nurse for the town is very generously met by Miss Bourne in memory of her father and mother, the late Rev. J. G. and Mrs. Bourne, who during a twenty-seven years' residence at the Castle Donington Vicarage enjoyed the affectionate regard of the parishioners.

Miss Frances Zanetti, the Government inspector under the Infant Life Protection Act to the Chorlton Union, in her annual report on the subject of nurse children, says that this year her observations have again shown her that the apathy and indifference of the parents are, in many cases, responsible for the poor class of home in which the babies are nursed. Her complaints respecting inadequate clothing, improper feeding bottles, &c., have been answered by complaints that the parents, who in many cases seldom visit their children, grudge paying any extra money beyond the sum for maintenance. Especially has she noticed indifference on the part of mothers towards delicate children needing hospital treatment. Miss Zanetti gives concrete cases to substantiate her remarks. That the Act is not a dead letter is shown by the fact that one of the nurses who had been nursing children for a number of years was deprived of her licence under the Act. During the year 180 visits were made in connection with the Act, affecting ninety-four children placed out at nurse. These included forty-eight children which came within the Act. The latter cases were described as on the whole satisfactory. Several unsatisfactory cases, which did not fall within the provisions of the Act, were met with. As an example of many similar cases:—Two babies were being nursed, but the mother of one slept in the house, by reason of which notification became unnecessary. "A baby, adopted for a lump sum of £50, died at the age of

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