

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* * * All communications must be duly authenticated with name and address, not for publication, but as evidence of good faith, and should be addressed to the Editor, 20, Upper Wimpole Street, W.



In connection with the resignation of Miss Butler, the popular Matron of the Samaritan Free Hospital, two interesting functions have recently taken place. On the first occasion Miss Butler received a very handsome present from the lady visitors of the hospital in the shape of a dainty white purse filled with gold. The Honourable Lady Leigh made the presentation, and said:—"Miss Butler, in the name of the lady visitors to this hospital I have been deputed to present to you a purse, as a small token of the great esteem in which you have been held for faithful and devoted service during twenty years." Understanding that Miss Butler is thinking of paying a visit to South Africa shortly, the ladies who made the presentation begged her to defray the expenses of the journey with the contents of the purse.

On Monday, August 7th, the Sisters and nurses, with Miss Royde-Smith, Secretary of the Appeal Fund, invited Miss Butler to a farewell tea, after which they asked her to accept from themselves and many of the past Sisters and nurses, as a token of their affection and esteem, a beautiful gold signet ring bearing her monogram, and having inside the inscription "S. F. H.," August, 1905. At the same time they presented to her a large leather purse with silver mounts and clasps. Later on in the day the servants of the hospital presented Miss Butler with a very handsome umbrella, mounted in silver. Many nurses will combine to wish Miss Butler *bon voyage* and a safe return. We understand that the hospital will now be closed for two months.

Miss Thorold, the retiring Matron of the Middlesex Hospital, will retain office during the closing of the institution for two months for cleaning and repairs. When the alterations are completed Miss Thorold will receive back the staff, and then retire after a term of office of upwards of thirty-five years' service, when her successor, Miss Vernet, will enter on her new duties.

Mr. Sloan recently asked the Secretary of State for the Colonies in the House of Commons whether the High Commissioner of Southern Nigeria acted on his own initiative in inviting at the beginning of the present year a sisterhood of French nuns to Calabar to take charge of the native Government

hospital, where the inmates were non-Catholic; for what period these nuns had been engaged; and whether it was intended to retain their services in preference to nurses who were not connected with religious orders.—Mr. Lyttelton answered: The proposal that two Roman Catholic sisters should be employed as nurses in the native hospital at Calabar (which is a separate institution from the European hospital) was originally made to the Protectorate Government by the head of the Roman Catholic Mission at Calabar in September, 1903. There had previously been no women nurses at the native hospital, and, as the proposal received the support of the principal medical officer and of the Acting High Commissioner, it was accepted on terms which were referred to, and approved by, me. It was stated in the terms of agreement that no undertaking could be given that the Sisters would be employed for any stated period but if the system is found to work well I see no reason, on the information before me, why it should be changed.

It would certainly appear that, irrespective of the religious question, the nurses in Government hospitals in our Colonies and Protectorates should be of British nationality. The question of training is also a material one. Gratuitous service can never compensate for lack of thorough training.

Nurses Wright, Digon, and Harrison have passed their final examinations at the Lewisham Infirmary, and have resigned their appointments. Nine nurses have passed their examinations for the first and third year's training. Miss Margaret Green has been appointed a Head Nurse, and Nurse-Probationers King and Stone have been promoted as Staff Nurses.

Is it true that many of the foreign employees with which this country swarms are Government spies? We hear that several foreign Powers claim that such spies are to be found even in our hospitals. We are less suspicious in this trusting land about our foreign probationers.

In the St. Marylebone Institute, recently, Nurse Phillips, who, for the past seven years has been working amongst the sick poor of St. Marylebone, was presented with an illuminated address, accompanied with a purse of gold. The presentation was made by Canon Barker in the presence of a large number of friends and subscribers, amongst whom was Sister Katherine, so long associated with the late Father Gutch of St. Cyprian's. Canon Barker, in making the presentation, spoke of the kind and sympathetic, as well as the capable way in which Nurse Phillips had performed her duties.

The acting medical officer of the Headford Dispensary District, Dr. Byrne, has reported to the Tuam Guardians the action of Nurse O'Connor,

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