

Drolls " entertainment was quite delightful and evidently greatly appreciated, and the fine band of the K Division, Metropolitan Police, went through a very lively programme. The nurses held a sale of pretty things left over from the successful American Bazaar, and Mr. T. Lloyd manipulated X-rays in the dispensing room. Such happy gatherings should do much to interest visitors in the Hospital's good work and loosen purse strings.

Miss A. C. Stroughill, who has held the position of Matron of the Kingston Victoria Hospital from the opening of the institution, has resigned upon her approaching marriage, which is to take place at an early date.

Miss G. Kinnear-Adams, Matron of the Ruchell City of Glasgow Fever Hospital, has resigned her position, upon her approaching marriage next month, to Mr. Gilbert D. Rowan, of Glasgow, a resignation we feel sure that will be received with sincere regret by all who have had the pleasure and profit of working with her. Miss Adams has been Local Secretary in Glasgow for the Society for the State Registration of Nurses since its inauguration, and has done much good work for the cause in Scotland. May she find time to continue the campaign in the future. We offer hearty congratulations and good wishes for many prosperous happy years.

The *World's Work* goes forcibly for the undertaker's tout in this month's issue. The system of secret commissions and toting has according to a writer, grown to enormous proportions in this gruesome business in London and in most of our large provincial towns:—

"Houses are watched where there is sickness, and directly the front window-blinds are drawn down there is a miserable tout on the doorstep with some undertaker's card in his hand, and an oily word of sympathy mingled with a request for the job on his tongue. Into this wretched business policemen, nurses, midwives, cabmen, *et id genus omne*, are drawn by the holding out of a fee. Nor is this the worst of the business. As we know, there are many deaths every week in hospitals and workhouse infirmaries, cases of death, too, that call for the coroner's intervention, and that can only find burial on his certificate; and for these bodies there is veritably a perfect scramble by the lower class of undertakers."

We should like to hear from nurses if they have experienced such unseemly advances upon the part of the undertaker's tout. We have known one offer gifts to the staff of a private nursing home.

Reflections.

FROM A BOARD ROOM MIRROR.



The Duke of Connaught has consented to open, in November or December next, the new buildings of University College Hospital recently erected through the munificence of the late Sir J. Blundell Maple.

Lord Camperdown's Committee of the House of Lords has had under consideration the General Powers Bill of the London County Council. The part taken first was that relating to the establishment of an ambulance service. It was proposed to have two ambulance stations, one north and one south of the Thames, and to provide motor ambulances in each station. A telephone call service was to be set up and a staff of fifteen men engaged. The only opposition to the proposal came from the City Corporation, who objected to being rated in respect of the scheme and asked that the City might be placed outside its scope. Sir William Collins gave evidence in support of the proposal, but the Committee declined to sanction it and ordered the clauses to be struck out of the Bill.

The new Victoria Infirmary at Newcastle-on-Tyne was opened by the King on Wednesday. The general appearance of the buildings, viewed from the entrance, is particularly pleasing. The grounds are beautifully laid out, and credit is certainly due to those who have been responsible for this part of the great undertaking. The flower beds are already showing bright colours, the greensward is fresh, and the young trees are in promising foliage. The workmanship of the gateways to these grounds is admirable. The centre gate is surmounted by a bronze figure of "Charity," and shafts and shields of the same material, exquisitely wrought, have been introduced here and there. On the shafts appear models of the Royal crowns.

Without attempting anything like a detailed description of the wards, they are altogether handsome and admirably equipped rooms. We may observe that everything in the way of heating, ventilation, lighting and furnishing likely to conduce to the comfort and well-being of the patients has been provided. The Nurses' Home, on the west side of the block, has rooms for one hundred nurses. It is easily accessible from the wards, and in every respect adapted to afford those who occupy it that amount of rest and recreation which hospital duties demand. The out-patient department, the dispensary, operating theatres, the chapel, and laundry, are not only suitable, but beautiful, and those who will have to work in this fine new hospital will be fortunate.

In memory of the late Lady Ashton, who took great interest in the Royal Lancaster Infirmary, Lord Ashton's tenants, servants, and workpeople have pre-

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