

The Military Nursing Service.

THE ANNUAL DINNER.

The annual dinner of the Queen Alexandra's Imperial Military Nursing Service took place at the Hotel Windsor on Thursday in last week.

Miss Sidney Browne, R.R.C., having been asked to perform the duties of chairman, responded most willingly and acquitted herself on this occasion in the usual hearty way with which she enters into everything connected with the nursing profession, particularly when it concerns the Army in which she served so long.

The unavoidable absence of Countess Roberts, Vice-President of the Nursing Board, and of Viscountess Downe, member of the same Board, was much regretted.

On the right and left of the Chairman sat Miss Keer, the Matron-in-Chief, and Lady Wynne, beyond sat Miss Cave, Matron of Westminster Hospital, and member of the Nursing Board, while Miss Becher, Principal Matron, as manager of the dinner, took up a position best suited for the responsibilities of her post.

If colours could be reproduced accurately by photography, then it would be difficult to find for its portrayal a prettier sight than the scarlet silk capes and facings, toned down by the quaker grey silk dresses, and set off by the snowy handkerchief caps of Indian muslin.

The health of his Majesty the King, and also of Queen Alexandra, President of the Q.A.I.M.N.S., and of the Royal Family, were proposed by the Chairman, and shortly afterwards the whole staff adjourned to the ante-room for coffee and animated conversation. Here, from all parts of the United Kingdom, in groups of twos and threes, "comrades-in-arms" met and talked.

Those who came from long distances were invited by Miss McCarthy, the hospitable Matron at Millbank, to avail themselves of the fine accommodation afforded there, and, needless to say, the invitation was thankfully accepted. Amongst those present was a former Sister who had served in the Egyptian war in the early eighties, and it was refreshing to see her enthusiasm, which would have done credit to a newly fledged member of the Q.A.I.M.N.S.

Unfortunately the hands of the clock crept on, and duty calls were emphatic, so ten o'clock saw the last members of the Q.A.I.M.N.S. leave the steps of the Hotel Windsor, where a most enjoyable evening had been spent.

Irish Nursing Notes.

There has not been anything of interest to report lately of the Irish Nurses' Association, as in the summer months very few meetings take place for business or otherwise. There are, however, many excursions taken, and teas given by the Matron members to the general members. One of these, a most pleasant function, took place on June 4th, in the grounds of Howth Castle. It was given by Miss Lamont, Lady Superintendent of Queen's Nurses in Ireland, who is a Vice-President; conjointly with Mrs. Kildare-Treacy, Lady Manager of the City of Dublin Nursing Institution. About a hundred nurses assembled and spent a most enjoyable time wandering about amidst the lovely rhododendrons, which are a feature of the grounds; they finished up with tea at a cottage which is situated on a wild bit of moor on the estate, and from which beautiful views of Dublin Bay can be seen. These entertainments are a great recreation to nurses, and it is extremely generous of the Matron members to supply them.

At the annual general meeting of the Irish Medical Association the newly elected President, Sir William Smyly, in his inaugural address, alluded to the Bill before Parliament for the State Registration of Nurses. After referring to the all important subject of the campaign being waged here against tuberculosis, he took up the subject of midwifery as one in which he had much practical experience. Talking about the Midwives' Act, he said it was a good one, and its extension to Ireland would be a great benefit. Whether they regarded it as a good or a bad measure, the exclusion of Ireland from its scope was detrimental to its great training schools. But if they adopted the same attitude towards the Bill for the registration of trained nurses, as they had done towards the Midwives' Bill, they would find their nurses excluded from practice in England, as soon as it became law, which would soon be the case.

This is good advice, which the organisations of Irish nurses have anticipated, as they are earnestly supporting the Bill of the Society for the State Registration of Trained Nurses. On the Central Nursing Council for which this Bill provides Irish Matrons and nurses are to be directly represented.

No body of nurses has given more effective support to the movement than those associated together in the Irish Nurses' Association.

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