

through all succeeding years been an influence for the betterment of nursing, and it is noteworthy that it has steadily and consistently supported the movement for the State Registration of Trained Nurses. The fact is well known that St. John's House was one of the institutions to which Miss Nightingale successfully appealed for nurses to help her in the Crimea, and that a party of nurses from the House accompanied her. It is significant not only of the prestige enjoyed by the House, but of the short amount of training then considered sufficient, that letters in *The Times* at that period appealed for volunteers for the work who were to be "trained by St. John's House before leaving for the seat of war."

At the time of the Zulu War in 1879 the Council patriotically offered to send out a party of twelve nurses, under charge of one or two Sisters, but the services of these nurses were utilised at home, at Netley and Woolwich, to supply the places of the Army Nursing Sisters who had left for the front. In the Græco-Turkish War two St. John's nurses were again employed, and in the recent South African War, in response to a telegram from the War Office, two nurses left for the Imperial Yeomanry Hospital at Deilfontein.

In many other emergencies St. John's House has responded to the calls made upon it, and the record of work just published shows that its vitality is unimpaired, and we hope that for many years to come it will remain a centre of nursing activity and of high endeavour for the common good.

At the Annual Meeting of the Royal National Pension Fund for Nurses the Chairman, Mr. E. A. Hambro said that the number of policies issued during the year was 1,406. The sickness assurance branch was very valuable. Mr. King had reported that the Fund was in a healthy condition, and growing rapidly in magnitude. The Chairman also referred to the new building, which is shortly to be opened by the Queen. Lady Rothschild has resigned the presidency of the Junius S. Morgan Benevolent Fund, and her place has been taken by Mrs. Burns, daughter of the late Mr. J. S. Morgan.

The new Nurses' Home of the Wolverhampton and Staffordshire General Hospital, Wolverhampton, was recently opened by the Countess of Dartmouth, Lord-Lieutenant of Staffordshire, and President of the Hospital. Lady Dartmouth performed the ceremony with a golden key presented by the Weekley Board, and afterwards a pleasant ceremony took place

in the presentation of long service medals to Sister Cornock (35 years), Sister McLaren (35 years), Miss Edith Jordan (Matron of the Penn Convalescent Home), and Sister Meadows (Theatre Sister). Lady Dartmouth in each case pinned on the medals, which are the gift of the Chairman, Mr. A. C. Twentyman. Those presented to Sister Cornock and Sister McLaren were of gold.

The new buildings of the Tolworth Isolation Hospital were last week opened with great éclat, the Chairman of the Board, Mr. G. C. Parnaby, presiding. The new ward pavilion, which contains twelve beds, is divided by plate glass partitions. There is additional accommodation for five nurses, and a new discharge block. The architect, Mr. Woodroffe, expressed his indebtedness to Dr. Cooper, Medical Officer to the Hospital, and to Miss Freeman, the Matron, whose intimate and practical knowledge of the internal working of the establishment had proved most valuable. Miss Freeman had rendered the Hospital Board great assistance in the work they had undertaken. The Chairman also said he desired to say how greatly the Board esteemed the services of the Matron, Miss Freeman.

The Mayor, Alderman A. Simpson, presided last week at the 43rd annual meeting of the Royal Derby and Derbyshire Nursing Institution, London Road, Derby. The Board of Management reported that they had been able to declare an extra bonus for each nurse, and the Lady Superintendent reported that there were 110 nurses on the staff, 71 of whom were employed in private nursing. The adoption of the report was moved from the chair, and Sir Francis Ley, who seconded, said that forty years ago the employment of one of the nurses led him to give the Association his hearty support, and afterwards to employ one of the nurses to look after his workmen and their wives and families. One of the nurses had been with him twenty years, and though she had had to retire, through the age limit, she was still a valued member of his family. The Mayor presented Nurse Wainwright with a purse containing £20 in recognition of 20 years' service; Nurse Bushell with the silver badge for 14 years' service, and the following, who had completed seven years' service, with Bibles: Nurses Cowan, Pack, Handy, Bertha Smith, and Walters.

At the annual meeting of the Cathedral Nursing Society, Newcastle-on-Tyne, at which Mr. J. E. Woods, High Sheriff of Northumberland, presided, the Committee stated in their

[previous page](#)

[next page](#)