

Nursing Echoes.



At the Poplar and Stepney Sick Asylum, the excellent plan is adopted of having the examination of probationer nurses conducted by an outside examiner. During the year ending March 25th, 1908, two examinations have been conducted by Mr. H. P. Dean, F.R.C.S., at which 20 candidates were examined, 18 of whom successfully passed the examination, and received their certificates. Thirty nurses also passed the examination in sick room cookery in connection with the classes held at the Asylum.

The Committee of the Army and Navy Male Nurses' Co-operation, 47B, Welbeck Street, who have just issued their first Report, state that the work accomplished during the year has proved most satisfactory, and more than justified the expectations of those who have so generously supported the scheme. The office was opened, and nurses supplied to the public in October last, therefore the actual period covered by the work of the men is nine months.

The report states that while there is every expectation of ultimately making the Co-operation self-supporting the expenses cannot be met out of the commission of 10 per cent. on the earnings of the thirty nurses now enrolled on the register, notwithstanding the fact that they are kept constantly at work, and the applications for nurses are increasing daily. It is estimated that at least 150 nurses must be in constant employment before the office expenses can be met by the percentage taken from the nurses' earnings.

A very pleasant "At Home" was given by the Matron and Nurses of the Kingston Union Infirmary on Thursday in last week. Unfortunately, towards the end of the afternoon, the weather, which was threatening, became hopelessly wet, and tennis had to be abandoned, but the time passed very pleasantly with some excellent music, and recitations, and the Matron, Miss J. A. Smith, was, as ever, the kindest of hostesses. Many of the guests took the opportunity of seeing the infirmary, which is always in the most spick and span order, and where the patients seem thoroughly happy.

The Report of the Local Government Board for Scotland for 1907 has just been issued, and chronicles the institution of periodical written, oral, and practical examinations for nurses, and the granting of a special certificate to those candidates who pass the test. During 1907, 75 nurses were examined: 28 obtained the full certificate and 44 passed in one or more subjects, reserving the remainder for a subsequent examination. When it is mentioned that Dr. George Gibson and Dr. W. T. Ritchie of Edinburgh, Dr. J. M. Johnston, of Glasgow, and two hospital Matrons in addition, are the examiners, it is a sufficient guarantee of the thoroughness of the examination.

A very interesting account of the work in the homes of the poor of the visiting nurse recently appointed in connection with the Maison de Santé Protestante, Bordeaux, is given in the current issue of the *Garde Malade Hospitalière*. This service was established in May last, thanks to the gift of 1,000 francs by M. le Commandant and Mme. Pilate in memory of their only son. Its value has already been amply proved, and the cases attended in the 70 days during which the nurse has been at work were very varied. Mlle. Amory, the certificated nurse who has taken up this pioneer nursing, gives a vivid account of a day's work.

An interesting paper on "Visiting Nursing as a Part of the Training School Curriculum" was read by Miss Margaret A. Bewley, R.N., graduate of the Presbyterian Hospital Training School for Nurses, New York, at the eleventh Annual Convention of the Nurses' Associated Alumnae. The course at the Presbyterian Hospital was established over four years ago under the direction of a graduate instructor, who supervises the nurses and their work in the homes. As there was no precedent to serve as a guide in framing the technique of training, it was thought best to begin in a very small way, making it possible for each new puzzling situation to work itself out in a logical way, and so to build up a practical working basis.

A beginning was made with one student nurse under the graduate instructor, and the staff gradually increased to four student nurses—three for medical and surgical nursing, and the fourth for tuberculosis work. After six months' work the student nurses were found inadequate for tuberculosis work, because of their inexperience and the frequent changes necessitated by their course in

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