

Nursing Echoes.



There was a picturesque ceremony at the opening of the new offices of the Royal National Pension Fund for Nurses, Buckingham Street, Strand, by the King and Queen on Saturday afternoon. They were received with hearty cheers by the Nurses, who saluted by raising their right hands high above their heads.

In the Embankment Gardens, where their Majesties alighted, the Queen was presented with a bouquet of pink carnations by a deputation of nurses, Miss Skillman, R.R.C., (Sister Hope), St. Bartholomew's Hospital, for England, who handed the bouquet, Miss Bates, of the Western Infirmary, Glasgow, for Scotland, Miss Wright, Matron of the Stobhill Hospital, Glasgow, representing Ireland, and Miss Templeman, Superintendent of the Merthyr Tydvil Infirmary, for Wales. Passing through the ancient water-gate, the King and Queen then proceeded to the building, and her Majesty opened the main door with a beautiful key, bearing her monogram, of gold and enamel, the work of Mrs. E. A. Dick. Their Majesties then entered the pavilion, where an address describing the work of the Fund was presented by the Chairman.

In the course of his reply, the King drew attention to the importance of the work of nurses in the following words:—"It has now happily long been recognised that in the alleviation of pain and sickness good nursing is of supreme importance, and that it is in the interests of the community that measures should be taken to obtain skilled and efficient nurses in increased numbers, and to procure for them such advantages and prospects as will retain them in their profession."

At the conclusion of his Majesty's speech, several presentations were made, and the Queen, with that tact which characterises all her actions, requested that Miss Sidney Browne, R.R.C., late Matron-in-Chief, should be presented, and so at this gathering of nurses one of their number was included in the presentations, amongst several men so honoured.

After the ceremony many of the nurses went on to the garden party in the grounds of the Royal Hospital, Chelsea, where they had tea and spent a very happy time.

The new wing of the Nurses' Home at the Bristol General Hospital, which provides accommodation for 32 additional nurses, was formally opened last week by Lady Smyth. The proceedings took place in the spacious hall of the new wing. Amongst those present on the platform were Miss Morris, the retiring Matron, and Miss Angus, the Matron elect.

Mr. J. Storrs Fry, who presided, said that they were about to lose the services of their much valued Matron, Miss Morris, who had held the position for fifteen years. They valued her services highly, and a great deal of what had been accomplished in that hospital had been owing to the work she had done, and the Committee were greatly indebted to her. They also had to welcome their new Matron, Miss Angus, who had held an important position at the London Hospital. They had every reason from what they had heard of her work, and from the high testimonials as to her capabilities and fitness for the post, to believe that she would fill it with honour to herself, advantage to the patients, and satisfaction to the Committee and friends of the institution. He asked for the support of those present for Miss Angus, and said she would greatly value the sympathy and help extended to her.

Before opening the door leading to the new Annexe, Lady Smyth said that without an efficient staff it would be impossible to carry on the hospital at all, and it was only fair and right that those who ministered so devotedly and unselfishly to the needs of the sick should be made as comfortable as circumstances permitted, and should have their hours of rest undisturbed. At the conclusion of the ceremony tea was served in the new Home, which was open to inspection, and came in for much admiration.

At the Brompton Hospital Sanatorium at Primley, it is most encouraging to learn that eighty per cent. of the patients are discharged fit to work. Before being thus discharged, a patient must do six hours' hard work a day for three weeks without a rise of temperature. Such results are a triumph both for Dr. Patterson, the Medical Superintendent, and for the Nursing Staff.

The new School for Consumptives at Moor End, Commonside, Sheffield, which has just been opened, is not intended to be a sanatorium, but is essentially an educational institution. Patients will be admitted free of cost, and treated for a month, and then a fresh

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