

Nursing Echoes.



The Sale of Work organised by the Matron and Nursing Staff of the Prince of Wales Hospital, Tottenham, on June 11th and 12th, was a great success.

A noticeable feature of the Sale was a table covered with gifts specially sent to the Matron by H.R.H. the Princess Louise, Duchess of Argyll, the President.

The stalls were arranged in the Victoria Mary ward on the ground floor, while the Louise ward, above it, was transformed into a prettily decorated tea-room by the ingenuity of the sisters. These two wards had just been closed for the annual cleaning, so were conveniently ready for use.

Through the industry of the nurses and the liberality of friends, many of whom had given largely of their substance, and still more most generously out of their poverty, there was a fine display of both useful and fancy goods of all descriptions. Patients and patients' friends had worked untiringly to show their gratitude and loyalty towards the hospital that had benefited them, and the results quite surpassed everybody's most sanguine expectations. Altogether, the sale realised £180, which the staff hope to raise to £200, by a remnant sale at a later date, and by contributions from friends.

The idea of the Sale originated in a "Letter to Patients," written by the Matron, Miss E. M. Fox, inviting them to join "The Grateful Patients' League," in which she wrote in this wise: "One visiting day a boy had brought in to him by his friends, two bananas, two pears, four sponge cakes, three eggs, a packet of sweets, a pot of jam, half a pound of biscuits, and a box of bricks. Yet when his mother was asked if she could not bring him a clean shirt she said his father was out of work, and she could not afford to! . Can you not influence your friends to put at least half of what they would otherwise spend in bringing you more things than you can possibly eat while you are here into the collecting box instead."

Many nurses will desire to visit Ballymacclinton, the Irish Village, now open at the International Imperial Exhibition, Shepherd's Bush. In so doing, not only will they get their money's worth, but they will be helping on the

work of the Women's National Health Association in fighting tuberculosis in Ireland. It is hoped that the profits of the Exhibition will allow of a resident health nurse being sent into every district of the country.

The organisation of the smaller work-house infirmaries all over the country leaves much to be desired, and the resignations of trained nurses are constant. At Newark, at Wrexham, and elsewhere, the Guardians meet, talk of investigating the reasons for these constant changes on the nursing staff, and very little is done. The truth is Boards of Guardians are composed of well-meaning people who know nothing of nursing, and until a new system of supervision is adopted, very little can be done, to improve the general arrangements.

We are very glad to note that Mr. J. S. Pollett, of Blackburn, who attended the District Nursing Jubilee Congress at Liverpool, realises that the rate of pay for district nurses as at present accepted is inadequate. He would have nurses paid at a rate so that with thrift they should be assured of a life annuity at the age of 50 of £75. He values a trained district nurse at £150 a year, instead of from £90 to £100, at which latter expenditure the nurse can only be secured from £30 to £35 salary, out of which it is impossible to provide for old age.

The *Journal* of the Royal South Hants Nurses' League, edited by Miss Mollett, is always well got up, and interesting, and gives the members annually just the news and information they appreciate. Under Personal Paragraphs there is quite a chime of wedding bells.

Writing from the Military Hospital, Ras-el-Jus, Alexandria, Miss Gwendoline Lees says, in the above *Journal*:—

The Citadel Hospital at Cairo is a really wonderful place, quite unique as a hospital; and yet in many ways very suitable. It was an old Khedival palace, built by Mohamet Ali over 150 years ago, as a harem. It is enclosed within the Citadel walls. It is very gorgeous and immense, with marble floors, alabaster staircases, and the walls and roofs (the latter generally domed) are frescoed from top to bottom in dull green and gold. To meet the ordinary hospital equipment in such surroundings seemed at first almost absurd and incongruous; in fact, there is no doubt it is so.

The work at Cairo is more interesting than here, because for one thing you get more of it; and are, in fact, generally very busy, as we were, in the summer. I did Night Sister's work for one

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