

tal. About a hundred accepted, and as it was a fine afternoon, we all enjoyed our outing. Several came out on bicycles, a distance of nine miles. Unfortunately the rain came down after tea, and I fear must have spoilt their pleasure riding back to town. Although on "pleasure bent," like John Gilpin's wife we still "had a frugal mind," as the topic in most groups was about that absorbing subject—Registration!

"After tea sitting on the heather our indefatigable Hon. Sec., Mrs. Kildare Treacy, made us hold an impromptu Committee meeting, at which she read some letters from Lord Amthill, Mr. Field, M.P., and Mrs. Bedford Fenwick. We were informed as to the proposed Conference to be held in a Committee Room of the House of Commons, and of the request that we should send ten delegates to it. Wishing that we were always able to hold our Committee meetings amid such delightful surroundings, we separated, with many thanks to our kind hostesses.

"Amongst those present were Miss Wills, Assistant Superintendent to Miss Lamont; Miss Crowther, Matron, St. Patrick's Home, Dublin, Q.V.J.I.; Miss McArdle, Matron of St. Laurence Home, also a branch in Dublin, and many Jubilee Nurses; Miss Kelly, Matron Steevens Hospital and nurses; Miss Keogh, Matron, Richmond Hospital and nurses; Mrs. Kildare Treacy, Matron, City of Dublin Nursing Institution and nurses; Mrs. Manning, from "Elpis" Private Hospital, and nurses; some nurses from Sir Patrick Dun's; Miss Cherry, Secretary, I.N.A.; and many others, including Miss Towers, Matron of the Dental Hospital, Dublin."

The graduating exercises at the General Hospital, Toronto, are always interesting and successful functions, and the last occasion when Lieutenant-Governor Gibson presented badges to the class of 1909 consisting of twenty-three nurses, was no exception to the rule. The Annual Report of the Training School by the Lady Superintendent, Miss M. A. Snively, showed that no less than eight hundred and twenty-five applications had been received during the year; from these forty-four were selected and admitted to the school. The off duty time through illness amounted to 1,853 days, made up as follows: Five cases of typhoid fever, six of diphtheria, one of erysipelas, one of pleuro-pneumonia, one of septic cellulitis, and many minor illnesses, including tonsilectomy, one, puncture of the antrum, two, adenectomy, one, and laparotomy, four. With

the exception of one most promising junior nurse, all these nurses made a good recovery. The scholarship for general proficiency was won by Miss E. N. Campbell.

During the year, amongst appointments received, no less than five nurses have taken up work as missionaries, three in China, and two in India. After the ceremony of conferring the diplomas in the theatre of the hospital, there was a garden party in the grounds, the dozens of nurses looked very fresh and trim in their blue linen dresses, white aprons and fichus, and little caps; many of them had their arms full of flowers given by friends on their successful "passing." The grounds were looking beautiful with splendid shrubs out in full bloom. Miss Snively welcomed the numerous guests.

The hospitals in South Africa are not supported with the generosity they should be, considering the wealth extracted from the soil in the past, and we are sorry to note that, as so often is the case when economy becomes necessary, the nursing department is the first to suffer. The Committee of the Kimberley Hospital have lately reduced the salaries of the probationers £5 in each of the three years of training.

A nurse writes:—"I suppose South Africa has made as many millionaires as any other colony. Considering what they have taken out of the country, it is a pity they don't return a little in charity. I suppose there are too many mansions to keep up in Park Lane, and peerages to pay for."

This is a justifiable criticism. The King's Hospital Fund might inquire from large donors how much such millionaires give in charity to the land from which they have extracted and carted away their wealth.

We heartily congratulate the organised American Nurses that their far-seeing loyalty to professional ideals has at last made them the owners of their splendid and influential journal, *The American Journal of Nursing*. Some months ago this valuable property was taken over by the Associated Alumnae of the United States, and is, therefore, no longer a private enterprise, but the property of all the nurses of the component societies in the national body. This is a fine example to nurses in this country, which, no doubt, they will appreciate once they have legal status, and are more alive to their professional responsibilities.

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