

explained the object of the meeting, and Mr. Charles Rothschild, a member of the Council of the British Red Cross Society, explained that the exact movement was not the formation of a Red Cross Society, as that already existed, but to form an aid society, to be called "Voluntary Aid Detachments," to be affiliated with the B.R.C.S., the real object of which is to form an intermediate line between the field hospital and the base hospital.

Two Voluntary Aid Detachments already exist, and now it is desired to form a branch in the Borough of Kensington.

The Detachments are divided into two sections—the Men's Detachment and the Women's Detachment. The latter, which is what we are mostly concerned with, comprises the following officials:—

- 1 Commandant (medical man or medical woman).
- 1 Assistant Commandant (medical man or medical woman).
- 1 Assistant Quartermaster (man or woman).
- 2 Lady Superintendents.
- 20 Women (of whom two should be fully trained nurses).

It appears that the only essential qualification required of the 18 lay women is that they hold a certificate either from the L.C.C. or St. John's Ambulance Society for first aid to the injured.

The women will meet twelve times in the year for practice of one hour's duration.

Miss Pitt-Taylor, the Hon. Secretary, pleaded earnestly for recruits. Many nurses were present, and one offered to join as a Superintendent.

The whole organisation of the British Red Cross Society is intended, it will be understood, to provide supplementary aid to the Territorial Medical Service to meet the needs of war at home. A cordial vote of thanks was proposed to Miss Walker by Lady Phillimore, and seconded by Dr. Waugh, and the meeting then terminated.

At the annual meeting of the Queen Victoria's Nursing Institution at Northampton, the Chairman, Councillor F. E. Thornton, J.P., in moving the adoption of the report, referred with satisfaction to the increase in the number of maternity cases, and expressed the hope that, as it was essential to a nurse's health she should have one day's rest in seven, the public would be more generous with their subscriptions in order that the weekly rest day might be given without any extra financial burden to the Institution. He pointed to the successes of Nurses Rogers and Ward in obtaining ap-

pointments at Macclesfield, and to the appointment of Miss Rose as an Inspector under the Queen Victoria Jubilee Institute, as showing that the Institute nurses were first-class. Turning to the balance-sheet, he said that the increased expenditure had been met by increased income, but he hoped to see a still further increase in the donations from patients.

The annual report of the American Society of Superintendents of Training Schools for Nurses, together with the report of the second meeting of the American Federation of Nurses has just reached us. It is a most interesting volume, containing, as it does, the proceedings of the fifteenth annual convention of the Superintendents' Society, held at St. Paul, Minnesota. We hope in a future issue to refer to this at greater length.

The following is the text of the resolution of the Board of Toronto General Hospital, as reported by the *Canadian Nurse*, in reference to Miss Snively's retirement, carried unanimously on December 1st, 1909:—"Resolved, That this Board of Trustees, on the occasion of the retirement of Miss Mary Agnes Snively, after 25 years of faithful and honourable service, as Superintendent of the Training School for Nurses in connection with the hospital, desires to place upon record its deep appreciation of the highly satisfactory manner in which she has discharged the duties of the position; to testify to the rare quality of the service rendered, and to the ability, zeal, earnestness and devotion which have marked her administration and conferred distinction upon both the Hospital and the Training School, and to convey to her the assurance of the esteem and respect in which she has been held by all the members of the Board."

## Our Prize Competition.

### "SOMETHING ABOUT OLD SISTERS."

We have pleasure in announcing that the prize of £1 1s. offered for the best paper of reminiscences entitled, "Something about Old Sisters," has been awarded to Miss E. M. Dickson, 15, London Road, Strood, Rochester, for her reminiscences of Sister Monica, Sister Winifred, and Sister Mary in one of the London hospitals in the early eighties. We shall hope to publish the paper in an early issue.

Will our readers note that Saturday, March 19th, is the latest date on which to send in photographs for the competition, "The Prettiest Patient."

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