

Nurses of Note.

MISS ELMA M. SMITH.

PRESIDENT OF THE HENDON LEAGUE.

Miss Elma M. Smith, President of the Hendon Branch of the Central London Sick Asylum Nurses' League, has held the position of Matron in the Poor Law Service for many years, first at the Infirmary in Cleveland Street, and later, when the beautiful new Infirmary was built at Hendon by the Central London Guardians, Miss Smith was appointed Matron of the new building. It is indeed not to be wondered that she preferred the new building, spacious and convenient, set in the midst of green fields, to the more confined quarters in Cleveland Street. Miss Smith began her professional career at St. Bartholomew's Hospital, where she gained the three years' certificate of the school, remaining on afterwards as Staff Nurse. She then went to the York County Hospital as Sister, after which she held the appointment of Home Sister at the Hospital for Sick Children, Great Ormond Street, for a year, and of Assistant Matron at the Paddington Infirmary, when she was appointed Matron of the Samaritan Hospital, Nottingham. In 1892

she was appointed Matron of the Central London Sick Asylum, Cleveland Street, W., and in 1900 of the Infirmary at Hendon, the position which she still holds. In this position Miss Smith has gained for herself the reputation of an excellent Matron, an able administrator, and a good disciplinarian, and one to whom the nurses look up as kind as well as just.

Miss Smith has always taken an active interest in nursing organisation, and was one of the professional patronesses of the first Nursing Exhibition held in this country in 1896 at St. Martin's Town Hall. She was an early member of the Matrons' Council of Great Britain and Ireland, and of the Society for the State

Registration of Trained Nurses, and is also a member of the St. Bartholomew's Hospital Nurses' League. In 1907 she attended the International Congress of Nurses in Paris, and she was also present at many of the meetings of the London Congress last year. It is not surprising, therefore, that she should desire for the Nurses of the Hendon Infirmary the benefits and pleasure to be derived from their association together in a professional League, or that they responded in large numbers to her invitation to form one. The members have done a wise as well as a graceful act in inviting Miss Smith to become their first President, and they are to be congratulated upon her acceptance of the position. She will discharge the duties of this honourable office in a way which will redound to the credit of the League, and we feel sure will inspire the members with her own spacious breadth of view.



Miss ELMA M. SMITH,
President Hendon Branch Central London Sick
Asylum Nurses' League.

L'Infirmiere.

The Belgian lay nursing schools have now their own nursing journal, the first number of which has appeared this month. Amongst the Editorial Committee are Mme. Cavell; and Dr. Boulanger and Dr. Ley, who attended the International Congress of

Nurses in London last year. The journal claims that the day has gone by when it is necessary to renounce a normal life as a preliminary to nursing the sick, or when devotion alone is a sufficient qualification. It claims thorough instruction in a hospital as necessary for training, and desires to see the nursing profession in Belgium accessible to young girls, and that the servant type of attendant should disappear and be replaced by the "neurse."

The paper contains an excellent article on "The Duties of the Nurse," by Miss Cavell, Directress of the Belgian School of Nursing.

We cordially wish the new journal a prosperous career.

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