

Metropolitan Asylums Board. Such experience is almost indispensable to those taking up private nursing, and they should make the most of the present opportunity. The Gore Farm Hospital is for the future to be known as the Southern Convalescent Hospital.

Miss Kate L. Ray, Matron of St. Mary's Hospital for Women and Children, Plaistow, E., writes:—"When Easter is making the whole world glad with the joy and promise of life probably few realise with what especial meaning the Easter message comes to nurses spending their lives in hospitals in which death is always near and always being only warded off by their conscious effort. It is because that continuous consciousness of the nearness of death, and of the watchfulness of death, to take advantage of the least relaxation of guardianship on their part makes so intense a strain on nurses that those responsible for their well-being recognise that all 'off-duty' time should be spent in an environment calculated to the recuperation of physical strength, mental calmness, and moral courage. My nurses, contrariwise, are housed under the worst possible conditions for rest and comfort, and to raise money enough to build a suitable nurses' home I am straining every effort to raise a million pennies, towards which I have now received 91,399. Is it too much to ask that those who are cheered with the Easter promise of life will remember tenderly the nurses who are continuously warring with death for the children to whom they minister, and send such Easter offerings to this fund that the new home may be commenced at once."

The Annual Conference of the South Wales Nursing Association, in affiliation with Queen Victoria's Jubilee Institute, was held at Gwyn Hall, Neath, on April the 4th. At the meeting of the Executive Committee entire agreement with the proposal for the co-operation of the Welsh Nursing Association with the Committee of the Welsh National Memorial to the late King was expressed. The Marchioness of Bute was unanimously re-elected President of the Association, Lady St. Davids Hon. Secretary, and Mrs. De Rutzen Hon. Treasurer. The Mayor of Neath, Dr. D. Llewellyn Davies, J.P., who presided at the second annual meeting and conference of the Association, said that it had not been long in existence, but it had done a great amount of important work. He was pleased to say that the Nursing Institute had been well supported in Neath.

Lady St. Davids, in presenting her annual report, said that it had now 45 affiliated

associations. The Committee appealed for at least £700 or £800 to develop the work. Lady St. Davids referred to the design for the badge to be worn by the village nurses in Wales, for which they had to thank Mr. Goscombe John, R.A. The figure of St. David had been chosen as the emblem of the badge, and "Gwell iechyd na golud" (Better health than wealth) as the motto.

At the Ninth Annual Meeting of the Somerset County Nursing Association, recently held at Taunton, Mr. J. E. Wakefield, Chairman of the Committee, who presented the annual report, stated that many new local associations had been formed. He also reported that Weston-super-Mare was employing a second Queen's Nurse instead of a non-Queen's, and Clevedon and Hatch were both employing Queen's Nurses. The great difficulty of procuring suitable candidates for training was also noted. A second Assistant Superintendent had been appointed to help Miss du Sautoy, and two Queen's Nurses had been engaged to be employed on the emergency staff, leaving the county-trained nurses free to proceed to districts on the completion of their training. Mention was made of the report of the Queen Victoria's Jubilee Institute on the work of the Association, which bore testimony to the interest and trouble taken by the Superintendent to teach and help the nurses to keep up to date, and to the zeal and energy displayed by the Superintendents in every department of their work.

A correspondent in the Irish press gives a word of serious warning to Irish girls not to enter any of the Dublin hospitals for training, giving as the reason that if they have any aspirations for further advancement, training in these hospitals will be valueless to them, because in the nursing profession the value of Irish nurses will be appraised by the standard placed upon them by the physicians and surgeons by whom they have been instructed, and that Irish-trained nurses are excluded in their own country from the one position (i.e., the Matron's) which is the natural and laudable ambition of the best nurses.

Irish nurses are not the only ones to suffer in this way. The depreciation of their own certificate by the Election Committee of St. Bartholomew's Hospital on a recent occasion is still fresh in the memory of the public, by whom it is condemned far and wide. What nurses want is a Central Authority to define and keep up standards.

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