

Nursing Echoes.



The Trained Nurses' Annuity Fund for disabled nurses appeals in its report for 1910, just issued, for a sufficient sum to complete the King Edward VII. Memorial Annuity, which, it will be remembered, was founded with the surplus of the money given by the members of the Territorial Force Nursing Service to a Memorial Cross of flowers for the late King's tomb, an application of the money (£90) which had the cordial approval of Queen Alexandra. The Council hope that during the year the total sum of £900 required to found an annuity of 10s. a week may be subscribed. Of the twenty-six applicants for two recent vacancies as annuitants all the cases were meritorious, and the Council found it most painful to make a choice. The Hon. Secretary of the Fund is Dr. Ogier Ward, 73, Cheap-side, E.C., who will gladly receive contributions.

The Local Government Chronicle makes the following statement. We commend the nurse for her public spirit, and regret it received so little encouragement from the Local Government Board:—

"A trained nurse who recently wrote to the Local Government Board drawing attention to the 'dangerous practice' of London bakers exchanging stale bread for new, cited a case of which she had personal knowledge, in which bread was exchanged at a house in which a person was suffering from an infectious disease. She suggested that such exchange should be made illegal. A reply, dated January 20th, has been received from the Local Government Board to the effect that the practice referred to was not subject to any legal restriction, and that, although still common, it was apparently on the decline. Moreover, no evidence was forthcoming that the practice had caused the spread of infectious disease. The letter also suggested that if the writer became acquainted with a similar case a communication should be made to the Council of the district concerned."

The quarterly meeting of the Poor Law Infirmary Matrons' Association was held on January 28th, at Bethnal Green Infirmary. There was a large attendance of members. The Honorary Secretary reported the resignation of five members who for different reasons

were leaving the Poor Law Service. Special regret was recorded that Miss Wesley and Miss Moir have had to give up work owing to ill-health; both had been most valued members of the Association, and constant attendants at the meetings.

Miss Dodds read a very interesting paper on the subject of "Dieting of Nurses," and explained the housekeeping system in vogue at Bethnal Green Infirmary, which varies from the usual arrangement of rations under the Poor Law.

At Bethnal Green, the Matron is responsible for arranging the meals for the Assistant Medical Officers, and the whole of the female staff. She may use her discretion as to the variety, etc., of the food so long as the aggregate sum spent does not exceed the amount allowed by the Board, this being 12s. per week for a superior officer and 8s. 8d. a week for other resident officers. She is not obliged to keep within this amount for any particular week, but the total spent in any quarter of the year must not exceed the allowance for that quarter. Miss Dodds also mentioned that each of her nursing staff pay a penny a month to a flower fund which keeps their mess room tables constantly provided with fresh flowers and plants.

After the reading of the paper the Matrons present joined in a discussion and compared notes. The next meeting will be held in April, and the time and place will be announced later on.

The arrangements for the forthcoming Nursing and Midwifery Conference to be held in April at the L.C.C. Technical Institute, adjoining the Royal Horticultural Hall, where the Exhibition will take place) include a paper to be read by Miss Amy Hughes, at the Session on District Nursing and Midwifery. Dr. Robert Jones, of Claybury Asylum, will read a paper on Mental Nursing, and it is hoped that there will be other speakers on this important question. "Massage" will be in the hands of the Incorporated Society of Trained Masseuses. One of the most interesting subjects to be dealt with, in view of the immense advance made in the knowledge of the question, is "The Care of the Teeth in Relation to General Health." Mr. George Thomson, L.D.S., has consented to give an address illustrated by lantern slides.

The accommodation provided by the Brighton Guardians for the nurses and other officers of the Workhouse was severely criti-

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