

### NURSING ECHOES.

The Queen paid a long visit to the West London Hospital, Hammersmith, on Saturday last, and was received, amongst others, by the two secretaries, Mr. Betheridge and Mr. Madge, and by the matron, Miss Neville, the assistant matron, Miss Maclean, and several of the medical staff. Her Majesty distributed flowers and kind words, and her visit gave great pleasure throughout the wards. We wonder if the Queen was shown the nurses' quarters; if so, we feel sure she will give support to the efforts of the governors to raise the necessary funds to provide a sanitary Nurses' Home, as the present accommodation is very inadequate and inconvenient. It is hoped that the great bazaar which is to be held in aid of this hospital in May will provide funds to erect the new Home. Queen Amélie has already, we hear, sent offerings which will no doubt command immediate sale.

The annual report of the Nurses' Co-operation, 8, New Cavendish Street, London, W., shows that the financial position of the Co-operation has been well maintained, and that the fees received by the nurses have considerably exceeded those earned by them in any one year since the Co-operation was founded in 1891. The receipts from patients were £48,807 13s. 3d., of which £45,939 have been paid to the nurses. The Committee report that the appointment of Miss Clara Hoadley as successor to Mrs. Lucas as Lady Superintendent has proved most satisfactory, she having already shown a keen interest in the nurses individually, as well as a determination to maintain the highest possible standard of efficiency of the Staff wherewith to meet the requirements of the doctors and their patients. The Committee also heartily acknowledge the good work of the Home Sister, Miss Baker, at the Howard de Walden Home. There are 387 members of the Nurses' Home and Club, which adds materially to the welfare of the nurses.

Mr. Isidore Salmon, L.C.C., who presided at the 22nd Annual Meeting of the Hammersmith and Fulham District Nursing Association, held at Carnforth Lodge, Hammersmith, on March 1st, suggested that a claim should be advanced for support from the public educational authorities by the Association.

Mr. Samuel Bewsher, a member of the Finance Committee, in moving the adoption

of the report, spoke of the present-day tendency to accept nothing in way of charity but to take everything as a right, and to hand the management of charitable institutions over to Government departments. There were two main objections to municipalization. One was that the cost of management of the institutions concerned was at once increased. As an example of a fund controlled by a Government Department and its cost, he instanced that of the Fund for the assistance of the unemployed, which was quite well managed, yet the expenses were £4 17s. 6d. for every £1 which reached the working man. Again, it was a valuable asset for any nation to have a large body of citizens devoted to doing good. Was this spirit to be crushed out to satisfy the chimeras of wild politicians? The Rev. G. D. Castleden, Vicar of St. Andrew's, Fulham, who seconded the adoption of the report, spoke of the invaluable work of the nurses from personal knowledge. He urged the Association to push its financial claims, saying that the clergy received so many appeals that the first few went into the waste-paper basket, but the fifth and sixth appeals, followed by a call, produced results. "If you worry us rather more, we will give you more money." We quite agree that the clergy receive innumerable appeals, but it is open to question whether they should expect busy people whose claims they recognize, and whom they intend to help, to appeal to them half-a-dozen times before taking any notice of the needs which they voice.

Mr. Charles Corkran, of the Charity Organization Society, proposing the re-election of, and thanking, the officers, questioned if there was any essential difference between the principles professed by the C.O.S. and the Hammersmith and Fulham D.N.A. They were thoroughness, catholicity, science. Nursing traced its lineal descent through a long line of ancestors from religion, war and science.

Miss M. Chapman, in seconding, spoke of the value of the nurses' help to the local tuberculosis dispensary and the Invalid Children's Aid Association.

The nurses are fortunate in possessing as their headquarters Carnforth Lodge, with its large garden at the back of the house. It is greatly desired to buy the property so that it may be secured to the Association. We hope any appeals issued with this object will receive an immediate response, and not be consigned to the waste-paper basket till the fourth or fifth reaches the consciousness of the recipient.

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