

## NURSING ECHOES.

The appeal of Lord Pembroke, the chairman of the Florence Nightingale Memorial, has resulted, it is stated, in £7,500 being received, of which £900 comes from soldiers and no less than £1,000 from nurses. It is calculated that a statue, with suitable base, will probably cost about £3,000, and the surplus will be available for nurses' annuities. Lord Pembroke is now making a final appeal. "There must be so many men and women," he writes, "who would gladly share in helping to keep alive the remembrance of Florence Nightingale's noble personality. It is unthinkable that the memory of Florence Nightingale's name and work should not be perpetuated to all time, and there is no better way of doing this than to have a statue of her in a prominent position in the capital of the country for which she did so much, and to benefit as many nurses as possible by the second scheme. It is not a mere form of words or an exaggeration to say that we owe all our sick nursing and the high standard to which it has now reached to this one woman's example and devotion." Thus has been lost the unique opportunity of raising a National Memorial worthy of her genius to the name of one of the world's greatest benefactors.

We love having tea with hospital matrons; they are always so kind and cheery. The atmosphere of a hospital has also a most soothing effect on the mind. The sniff of cleanliness one gets on entrance, pungent usually with soap-suds and turpentine, and the consequent brightness everywhere, what with "polish" and flowers, is so perfectly healthy and restful. Then matron has usually a snug little apartment of her own, in which she expresses her personality and surrounds herself with her Lares and Penates.

Recently we had occasion to visit St. Peter's Hospital for Stone, in Henrietta Street, W.C., and here, only a stone's throw from the humming Strand, it was delightful to find that the hospital overlooked at the back the spacious green oasis, the garden and lawns of St. Paul's Church, which is a haven of rest to the hospital's workers, and where the birds chirp as tunefully in the spring as they do in the country, only the sweetness of their singing is the more grateful to the ear.

At St. Peter's, which contains about 30 beds, the reputation of the surgical skill stands

deservedly high, and it relieves some of the most distressing and painful physical conditions from which humanity suffers. The Nursing Department, which has been under the very able superintendence of Miss Florence E. Furley for the past ten years, keeps well apace with the surgical clinic it serves. Ours was a surprise visit, so we saw the hospital in its usual condition, and the whole institution up to the kitchens appeared in very perfect order. The wards are a comfortable size, and, overlooking the garden, are very light and airy, and all the appointments were very dainty, useful, and well cared for; and as the hospital is not overstaffed, this good order reflects the greatest credit upon the matron and her assistants, nursing and domestic.

The Metropolitan Asylums Board has recently found difficulty in obtaining an adequate supply of staff nurses, and to minimise the difficulty it is proposed to have an immediate increase of probationers from 200 to 240, and to advance the salaries of staff nurses from £26 to £30 a year. It is found that staff nurses with general training do not remain for any length of time in the Fever Hospitals after they have obtained the certificate at the end of a year's work. There is no doubt that no nurse can consider herself thoroughly qualified in medical nursing who has not been trained in the care of infectious cases, and we hope that every year the great benefit of this branch of nursing will be more and more appreciated by women who desire to be fully trained.

A new feature in the Bristol Exhibition, to be held in the Victoria Rooms, Clifton, from June 6th to June 12th, is that the first day is to be set apart for nurses only, and that the Exhibition will not be opened to the general public until two o'clock on the following day, June 7th.

By this means it will be possible to show some exhibits of special interest to nurses which would not be suited to a lay gathering; nurses will be able to see everything without undue crowding; and all the lectures, as well as the entertainments, will be chosen with special reference to them. They will, in fact, enjoy a private view.

All members of the Nurses' Social Union will on that day be admitted free, while the charge for admission to other nurses will be 6d. only.

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