

### NURSING ECHOES.

We are glad to hear that the Council of the Royal Free Hospital School of Medicine for Women have received the sum of £1,500 from an anonymous donor to clear off the debt upon the building in Brunswick Square. The Royal Free Hospital, as the only hospital in London where women can get a complete medical education, deserves to be generously supported by all those who claim the right of women to consult their own sex in sickness. It is, moreover, a very well and economically managed institution, and the system of nursing has of late been levelled up to a high standard under the superintendence of Miss R. Cox-Davies. The hospital is situated in a very poor district, and as one passes through the gateway from the busy Gray's Inn Road a very good impression is given by the garden effect of blooming flowers in tubs, and general order. The best seems to be made of everything in the fine wards and domestic offices. The beautiful little mortuary chapel—a peaceful place, where friends can see their dead alone, and which is in charge of the Assistant Matron, whose duty it is to personally attend to the care of the dead before burial—is shown with just pride, as one of those humanising arrangements in hospital management which mark a line of demarcation between the old style nursing and the new.

The League of School Nurses are holding a Fancy Dress Dance at St. Bride's Institute, Bride Lane, E.C., on Saturday, May 4th. The function begins early, at 7.30 p.m., and there are to be prizes given for the best historical costume, the best early Victorian costume, and the most original costume. Tickets cost 2s. 6d., which includes light refreshment. The School Nurses dances are usually most successful, and how it is done we cannot say, but a profit is usually made in support of their benevolent fund.

Our readers will find in our advertisement columns a notification of vacancies for certificated nurses in the Brussels hospitals, in connection with which a new school of lay nurses has recently been inaugurated. It is essential that applicants should be able to speak French or Flemish. To any trained nurses with these qualifications, work in the beautiful city of Brussels, and the opportunity of helping the new movement for the thorough training of lay nurses should have many attractions. All information may be obtained from M. le Direc-

teur, Hospital of St. John, 52, Rue Pachéco, Brussels.

The Nurses' Social Union has called a meeting to discuss the question of altering the name of the Society, which will be held on April 25th at 12, Buckingham Street, Strand, at 4.30 p.m. Although only members may vote, other nurses will be welcome to attend.

The officers of the Union are very busy preparing for the conference and health exhibition to be held in Bristol in June, for which all the railways will issue tickets at reduced fares. We shall give further information next week.

Miss Purvis, the Lady Superintendent of the Middlesbrough Nursing Association, and her staff of seven nurses received well merited praise from the Mayor at the annual meeting, especially for the work done in connection with the prevalent distress in the borough. During the year there had been 1,324 new cases, and 31,561 visits had been paid.

The Countess of Dudley has accepted the Presidency of the Kidderminster District Nursing Association, and in doing so expressed her gratification that they had made it a civic affair, for the ideal of citizenship was the recognition of common obligations and responsibilities with regard to the interests of the community.

The inauguration of the bush nursing scheme and the investiture of Nurse Quatreman with the beech leaf badge as nurse in charge at Meeniyon, was performed last month by Lady Denman.

Lady Denman addressed a meeting in the Town Hall at Leongatha, and said it must make all the difference for the peace of mind of the people in the neighbourhood to know that skilled attention and nursing were at hand if they or their children were ill. To her mind one of the chief advantages of the scheme was that it was not charitable, but co-operative. All must admire the courage of Lady Dudley, who, in spite of personal sickness, started this scheme, and would be pleased to know that it was being carried out by Dr. Barrett and the members of the committee. Every nurse on entering upon her duties was presented with a badge, the emblem of which was a beech leaf, chosen because the first nurse was installed at Beech Forest. She had much pleasure in presenting Nurse Quatreman with the badge and wishing her every success and happiness in her work.

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