

Four years ago Miss Carson-Rae was appointed Secretary of the Irish Nurses' Association, and is now Secretary to the Nurses' Hostel.

MISS J. E. HUGHES.

Hon. Secretary of the Nursing Exhibition.

Miss J. E. Hughes, who has undertaken the onerous work of the Hon. Secretaryship of the Nursing Exhibition, is as keenly interested in Mental Nursing as Miss Carson-Rae is in fever nursing, and it was a great disappointment to her when the exigencies of the time limit necessitated its excision from the programme of the Conference. It will be a matter for general regret also, for there is no doubt that other countries are before us in the study of mental diseases, and that time, research, and money should be devoted to the elucidation of underlying causes, and that the nursing profession should bring to the service of the insane the best women that it can produce.

Miss Hughes was trained at the Brownlow Hill Infirmary, Liverpool, and worked for Sir Patrick Dun's Hospital till 1888, when she was appointed Superintendent of Nurses at the Whitworth and Harwicke Hospitals, Dublin. Since 1894 she has devoted herself to the insane, first in studying their care at the Holloway Sanatorium, Virginia Water, then at the Richmond Asylum, Dublin, and from 1902 till last year as Matron at the Asylum, Portrane, where her hospitality will long be remembered.

THE OFFICERS OF THE CONFERENCE.

Hon. President.—Mrs. Bedford Fenwick, President N.C.N. *President.*—Miss M. Huxley, President I.N.A.

Vice-Presidents.—There is an influential list of 120 Vice-Presidents, including the Dowager Marchioness of Dufferin and Ava, the Marchioness of Waterford, the Lady Helen Munro-Ferguson, Miss E. S. Haldane, LL.D., the Lady Hermione Blackwood, the Honble. Albinia Brodrick, Miss Hare-Foster, B.A., Organizing Officer, Board of Trade, Dublin; Miss Gwynn, Lady Registrar, Trinity College; Miss MacDonnell, R.R.C., Member Board of Superintendence; Miss White, LL.D., Principal Alexandra College; and most of the Irish Matrons.

Hon. Secretaries.—Mrs. A. Ball, Mrs. Major, and Miss Patton. *Exhibition.*—Miss Hughes.

Pageant Committee.—Mrs. Webster, Miss Macnie, and Miss Patton.

Hospitality Committee.—Mrs. Dallas Pratt, Mrs. Manning, Mrs. A. Ball, Mrs. Richard Dowse, Mrs. Major, Miss Eddison, and Miss Reeves.

Hon. Secretary for Conference.—Miss Carson-Rae.

THE IRISH NURSING WORLD.

THE IRISH NURSES' ASSOCIATION.

It was in the year 1900 that it was agreed to found a Nurses' Club in Dublin, as it seemed desirable that there should be some place where nurses could meet to discuss professional matters, and also for social intercourse. Suitable Rooms were found in Stephen's Green, and for nearly two years very successful Club Meetings were held there, but a longer lease of these very nice quarters could not be obtained, and the Club had, therefore, to be closed, to the great regret of its members. It was reopened after two years at 86, Lower Leeson Street, when the name of the Society was changed to the Irish Nurses' Association, as having a wider significance. Miss M. E. MacDonnell was appointed its first Secretary, and held that office, doing valuable work, till she left Ireland to return to India, where she is now engaged in mission work. The Headquarters of the Association continued to be in Leeson Street until 1911, when it removed to the present Rooms in 34, St. Stephen's Green, which are beautifully situated, overlooking St. Stephen's Green Park. These quarters are large and airy, very bright, and the varying view from the windows is a constant source of interest.

The primary object of the Association is to provide a Central Meeting place, where Nurses can congregate and discuss matters of vital interest to them in their profession. This has proved the very greatest benefit, for the Association has been able to guard the interests of the Irish Nurses, which on several occasions were being interfered with. If the Nurses all over Ireland would only recognise what is being done through the Association, they would join in even greater numbers, for although there is a large membership, it is not nearly what it might be if every Irish Nurse co-operated for the benefit of the whole profession. Besides this very important object, lectures are provided for the members, social gatherings take place, and there is a medical and general Library.

The Irish Nurses' Association having proved itself so useful to Trained Nurses, the Irish Matrons considered it advisable to start an Association for themselves, through which they could confer on matters relating more particularly to their work, which might not be suitable for discussion by the Nurses' Association.

THE IRISH MATRONS' ASSOCIATION

This Matrons' Association was founded in 1903. Each member must be a fully trained Nurse as well as a Matron, or Lady Superintendent. Meetings are held once a month, and

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