

to give a certificate of general training to those taking a four years' course. Miss Bickham believes in the principle of reciprocal training, and hopes that more general hospitals will afford facilities of this kind.

The new Superintendent Nurse of the Bromley Union Workhouse (Miss Harkin) has reported to the Board that the institution is very understaffed with nurses. She asked for a staff of sixteen—one night nurse, two charge nurses, eight senior assistant nurses, and five junior assistant nurses. That was the smallest staff to ensure the effective working of the wards. The Medical Superintendent fully agreed with Miss Harkin in her report. It was decided to consider the matter in committee.

With a view to providing an adequate nursing service for every area it is proposed to provide under the Highlands and Islands (Medical Service) Act (Scotland) of 1913, that in one way or another nurses are established at convenient centres throughout the Highlands and Islands. The Board created under the Act will endeavour to use local nursing associations where they exist, but the system to be organized must meet the requirements of the officials and of the voluntary medical services as far as practicable. The duties of the nurses will include attendance on medical, surgical, and midwifery cases. In many districts the Board is of opinion that the headquarters of the nurse should be at the local hospital of her district, and that in some districts there is need for small hospitals, capable of accommodating four to six patients. The Board will also take into consideration the need of specialized medical services, including provision for examination of eyes, ears and teeth, particularly of school children. In connection with the provision or otherwise of school clinics, the Board will have regard to the Imperial funds placed at the disposal of School Boards for this purpose.

We have much pleasure in giving prominence to the appeal of Miss M. Bradshaw (Secretary of Lady Dudley's Nursing Scheme) for toys for the children in the West of Ireland. Miss Bradshaw writes that if people realized what these gifts mean to the children, many of whom have never possessed a toy before, they would help to brighten the lives of the poor children in the remote districts where Lady Dudley's nurses are at work in this way. All gifts are welcome, particularly dolls, balls, and whistles.

NURSES UNJUSTLY TREATED.

The Annual Meeting of the Society for the State Registration of Trained Nurses drew the attention, by Resolution, of the Council of King Edward's Hospital Fund for London to the fact that the Central Hospital Council for London has taken power to use charitable funds to finance its political opposition to the State Registration of Trained Nurses. The Council of the King's Fund have decided to take no action on the Resolution, and in view of the important issues involved to the charitable public, and trained nurses, we shall deal with the subject fully next week.

SCOTTISH SOCIETY OF TRAINED NURSES.

Dr. James Wallace Anderson, Glasgow, author of "Medical Nursing," which has reached a fifth edition, and an Hon. Associate of the Order of St. John of Jerusalem; Miss A. W. Gill, R.R.C., Matron of the Royal Infirmary, Edinburgh, and President of the Scottish Matrons' Association; and Miss Alexander, Matron of the Royal Alexandra Infirmary, Paisley, and President of the Scottish Society of Trained Nurses, are to act as Hon. Examiners in the competition which will be held in 1914 for the Society's "Nightingale" Medal. The prize is intended to encourage reading and study among nurses who have completed their training in British hospitals' training schools, and who have worked as nurses for at least one year. The subject of the essay will be announced later.

PRESENTATIONS.

The presentations made by the workpeople of the City of York to Sister Hannah Oldfield, Sister Lily Richards, and Sister E. Hutchings, of the York County Hospital, organized by the Workpeople's Hospital Fund Executive, were gratifying evidence to these Sisters, who have resigned their posts, and are taking up other work, that they have the gratitude and good wishes of the class from which their patients have for the most part been derived.

The presentations took place in the Board Room of the Hospital, the gifts being presented by Mr. John Bickle. They were:—to Sister Oldfield, a leather travelling bag; to Sister Richards, an umbrella and a writing case; and to Sister Hutchings a gold bracelet. Sister Oldfield warmly acknowledged the gifts, and said how the patience and gratitude of their patients had helped them in their work.

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