

reasonable fee for the services of the Queen's Nurses to insured persons."

The Chairman said that the question of a capitation fee was out of count for the present. The position was not ripe for it.

It has been decided to bring to a close the affairs of the South Shields Nursing Guild, a charitable organization which has been in operation for a quarter of a century, owing to the lack of public support.

The twenty-fifth annual report of the Council of the Scottish Branch of Queen Victoria's Jubilee Institute for Nurses for the year ended October 31st last, referring to the meeting in April last of delegates from affiliated associations, at which various aspects of the Insurance Act were dealt with, and the delegates were invited to bring these matters before their respective associations, states that the replies received were now under the consideration of the Council. Efforts towards co-operation between the Institute and the Friendly Societies had, however, been unproductive, meantime owing to the Approved Societies not feeling themselves sufficiently established under the new régime to enter into any definite agreement as to the nursing of their members.

With a view to the extension of the Institute's work, and simplicity and economy of administration, the Council had urged the formation of County Associations, and steps for the organisation of these were now in progress in several counties. During the year thirty-three nurses had successfully passed through the six months' training in district nursing given in the Scottish Central District Training Home, and two nurses passed the examination of the Central Midwives' Board. The number of Scottish Queen's Nurses now on the roll was 379, exclusive of candidates for the roll still undergoing training. There were now 238 nursing associations affiliated to the Scottish Branch of the Institute. During the year seven branches had been affiliated, and two branches had disaffiliated, both for financial reasons.

The excess of ordinary expenditure over ordinary receipts had been £1,503, being about £600 more than last year. This, to a large extent, was accounted for by exceptional repairs and replacements, and increased cost of housekeeping, lectures, uniforms, inspection expenses, and other items. During the year legacies amounting to £425 had been received, and the Council also received intimations of a

legacy from the late Dr. Proudfoot of £1,850, almost the whole of which was in the form of an investment to be taken over by the Institute, and that the late Miss Julia Meiklam of Gladswood had bequeathed to the Institute one-third of the residue of her estate, which would eventually amount to over £7,000, a large portion of which would be paid early in the current financial year. From the general account it would be seen that No. 26, Castle Terrace, had been purchased at a cost, including furniture, of about £2,400. The contributions received from or on behalf of patients amount this year to nearly £260, which the Council regarded as very gratifying.

The Catholic Nurses' Association has arranged a course of very instructive lectures to take place at Lourdes House, Dublin, during the winter.

Dr. Grenfell, of Labrador, who has recently been in England and has told something of his wonderful work in that unit of the Empire, also mentioned a notable exploit performed this season by one of the nurses at the hospital on the Grand River. This lady was the first woman to travel to the Grand Falls of Labrador, a distance of 300 miles up the river, and the highest falls in North America.

She performed this notable journey accompanied by a trapper, but lost her canoe on the way back.

Definite steps have been taken to carry into effect the patriotic desire of New Zealand nurses to form a reserve ready for duty in time of war or national disaster. Miss Maclean, Assistant Inspector-General of Hospitals and Deputy-Registrar of Nurses, has been gazetted as Matron-in-Chief by the Department of Defence.

The Matrons of the four chief hospitals are to be appointed for their several districts of Auckland, Wellington, Canterbury, and Otago. Each will control a contingent of sixteen nurses, who must be under forty years of age, and are to be selected from hospital staffs and from private and district nurses. It is possible that later some instruction in military nursing may be arranged for.

At a Special General Meeting of the Australasian Trained Nurses' Association, held in October at Sydney, it was decided to raise the usual fees of private nurses from £2 2s. to £3 3s. a week. Miss Mabel Newill, Lady Superintendent of the Royal Prince Alfred Hospital, moved the resolution in an admirable speech. The nurses stated that the increased

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