

Spanish is spoken in this country. In six months, one can acquire a working knowledge of the language. Two of our sisters, who have only been out nine months, already speak and write fairly well, and our nurses are quite used to interpreting.

The sisters' salary is at the rate of £9 per month; first-class fare out is paid, and return fare at the termination of the three years agreement. Board, lodging, laundry and uniform are provided.

The off-duty times are on a most liberal scale.

The usual monthly post-graduate lecture of the National Association of Trained Masseuses and Masseurs was held in the lecture room, 15, Piccadilly, Manchester, on Wednesday, May 21st. Dr. Guest, of Stockport, gave a most interesting lecture on "Joints and their Diseases," and the attendance proved how much these lectures are being appreciated.

The annual report of the Society of King Edward's Coronation Fund for Nurses, read at the annual general meeting of the Society, held on the 19th inst., at 73, Lower Leeson Street, and at which Mr. Andrew Beattie, D.L., presided, stated that during the past year twenty-six new members had joined, and that the number of registered nurses in the Society was now 170. Grants were made to twenty-six nurses during the year. One nurse was granted an annuity of £12 7s., paid from the Countess of Pembroke's Fund, and 25 received grants varying in amount from £2 to £13, making total amount of £180 7s. The total amount of the grants of the previous year was £150. The applicants assisted resided in different parts of Ireland. The report added that the Society had a balance to credit in the bank, and the sum of £30 2s. 1d. in hand.

Sir Joseph M'Grath said the report showed a record of great and successful work. The Society was an admirable one, and he would do his utmost to get into membership every qualified nurse whom he knew.

Miss Ramsden said the nurses' fund was not so much a matter for the public as for the nurses themselves, and they should try and influence every nurse to become a member.

The following ladies and gentlemen were elected members of the Council:—Miss Kelly, late Lady Superintendent Steevens' Hospital; Miss MacDonnell, R.R.C.; James Crozier, Esq., J.P.; Sir John Lentaigne, M.D.; Marcus Tertius Moses, Esq., J.P.; Sir Christopher Nixon, Bart.; T. A. O'Farrell, Esq., J.P.; Sir Lambert Ormsby, M.D.; Sir Andrew Reed, K.C.B.; Sir William Watson, D.L.

The following Matrons, elected by ballot,

were declared representatives of the nurses on the Council:—Miss M'Givney, Lady Superintendent Mater Misericordiae Hospital; Miss Powell, late Lady Superintendent Charlemont Hospital; Miss Reed, Ivanhoe, Lansdowne Road; Miss Colvin, Lady Superintendent Mageough Home; Miss Phillips, Lady Superintendent Steevens' Hospital.

Sir Andrew Reed and Mr. Marcus Moses were elected hon. treasurers, and Miss Boland and Sir Andrew Reed were re-elected hon. secretaries.

#### QUEEN VICTORIA'S JUBILEE INSTITUTE. CONFERENCE OF SOUTHERN SUPERINTENDENTS.

The Conference took place this year at the Technical Institute, Vincent Square, S.W., on Tuesday, May 26. Lunch was both prepared and served by the students, who did credit to their teachers in the excellent menu which was provided, and in the attention which the budding waiters showed to the visitors. At the Conference which followed, Miss Rosalind Paget, who took the chair, reminded her hearers of the good use which a Conference like the present could be. All could discuss their views and hear the opinions of others. Those concerned in the work of district nursing could not help seeing that a critical time had arrived, and that if, in the future, their good work was to be carried on in a different way, it was the duty of all to help to mould the nursing of the future. After the preliminary business of the election of the Committee had been transacted Miss Marsters (Superintendent, Paddington) opened the discussion with a paper on the training of nurses under the Insurance Act. They had heard that nursing was to be provided, but no definite statement had been made as to whether a separate organisation should be set up or whether grants should be given to existing associations—a wiser policy than the creation of a fresh body of officials.

Details of the working of the Act in connection with their own associations were given by Miss Bacon (Leicester), Miss Murphy (Worcester), Miss Brunton (Norfolk), and others.

Miss Michie (Superintendent for Ireland), pointed out that the new schemes do not include old chronic cases and the uninsured, who will always be cared for by District Nursing Associations, but the Homes could not be maintained by the small payments which were received for parish cases, and other casual subscriptions which might come in, and those in authority should be kept informed of this aspect of the question.

There was some further discussion on the difficulty of obtaining maternity cases for candidates who have not had midwifery training; and after tea the members of the Conference, by kind invitation of Miss Mackintosh, visited the Empire Hospital for paying patients.

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