

NURSING ECHOES.

GENERAL NEWS.

We learn that Her Majesty the Queen of the Hellenes is taking a keen personal interest in the question of providing highly skilled nursing in Greece. It will be remembered that as Crown Princess, Queen Sophia took a very active part in 1897 in caring for the sick and wounded soldiers during the Græco-Turkish War, and visited daily some of the hospitals where they were tended by the trained nurses of many nations. Owing to the advent of a little Princess during the recent war, Princess Andreas of Greece and others helped by personal work to carry out the wishes of the Queen. We are glad to know that England will probably take part in training some of the Greek pupil nurses. The warm sympathy of the British people with the aspirations of modern Greece, and the friendship which has existed between the two nations for so long, will add special pleasure to the task of training Greek women for the care of their own people in sickness.

The recent issue of *League News* has a charming frontispiece of the Square at Bart's, reproduced from a photograph by Miss V. Godfrey, a member of the League. It is an excellent number, and we are specially pleased with the editorial sections, touching as they do on questions of very great interest to nurses and sick people, and concerning which it is the duty of every trained nurse to take an intelligent interest. The resignation of Miss Lathom—Sister of President Ward and sub-editor of the Journal—is a very serious loss to the hospital and *League News*. We wish her happiness in pastures new. Miss G. M. Simms has been elected to the sub-editorial chair.

The great event of the Games Club was the open tournament for the handsome silver cup generously presented by Miss Earl, formerly Sister Theatre, now Matron of the Princess Alice Memorial Hospital, Eastbourne. The tournament began in October, and there were twenty-one entries. Sister President won the cup. It is to be held for a year, and retained by anyone who is lucky enough to win it four years in succession—not a very likely event.

We learn that great pressure is likely to be brought to bear again, this year, to compel Bart's nurses to compete for a cup "run by" the lay editor of a nursing paper. The prestige of Bart's nurses is ardently desired in support of this advertising dodge. We hope they will

continue to maintain their professional self-respect by refusing to be exploited for "copy."

The Annual Entertainment for the staff at St. Bartholomew's Hospital last week ran for three nights, the Great Hall being packed on each occasion. The Musical Society, which includes several "Nurse" violins, played a delightful selection, and the play of "Beauty and the Barge," rendered entirely by men, created an immense amount of fun, and Mr. Whitehead, as Mrs. Baldwin, and Mr. Russell, as Mrs. Porter, were most realistic. The patients are permitted to attend the rehearsal, and we always think they make the most appreciative audience, as there are always such shouts of delight as the youngsters and even the grown-ups recognise their own doctor.

The New Year's Entertainment at the Royal Hospital for Diseases of the Chest will take place on the 28th inst., for which the Residents and Nursing Staff have sent out invitations. There are to be music and theatricals, when no doubt the curtain will be rung down on hospital festivities for this season.

The great work accomplished in recent years at the Cripples' Hospital and College at Alton (founded by Lord Mayor Treloar) in the application of scientific surgical treatment, under the direction of Dr. Gauvain, in conjunction with highly skilled nursing, superintended by the Matron, Miss Robertson, has rapidly constituted this institution a practical example to others, where its system of special treatment might well be adopted—to the great advantage of many poor children now sent to Convalescent Homes, where no permanent relief is provided for them.

Trained nurses will be glad to hear that a course of one year's training in the special work at Alton has now been organized, by which a limited number will be admitted as staff nurses at a salary of £30 per annum, a pass, board, lodging, laundry, and uniform, and they will be eligible as Sisters as vacancies may occur, for which post the remuneration is from £35, rising £2 10s. a year to £50—a salary which an experienced Sister has a right to expect, although this maximum is very rarely reached even in our leading hospitals.

One great feature at Alton is the expert teaching given in the College to cripples, so that they may become self-supporting, and we are glad to learn that the hospital is now certified by the Board of Education, and that there are four teachers at work instructing the

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