

NURSING ECHOES.

GENERAL NEWS.

The Duchess of Marlborough takes an active personal interest in the West Ham Hospital. She has just sent a very welcome gift of new bed jackets for the Marlborough Ward.

Upon visiting a friend in a Nurses' Home, we found her asleep on the bed with a large *unguarded* fire alight in the grate, before which, far too close, underclothes were airing on a chair! How dangerous. We hope the committee of the said institution will now note the rider to the verdict of the jury at Guy's Hospital, on the sad death of a young lady clerk, whose apron caught alight from an unguarded fire, to the effect that all fireplaces in the hospital where nurses and other women have access should be guarded.

Miss Violetta Thurstan, late Q.V.J.I. Superintendent of the West Riding Nursing Association, will, on Saturday, January 31st, give a Lantern Lecture on "Some Aspects of Women's Work in the Past" at the Grand Hotel, Birmingham, at 7.30 p.m. The chair will be taken by Miss E. M. Musson, Matron of the Birmingham General Hospital. A short address will be given by Mrs. Osler, President of the Birmingham Women's Suffrage Society. Members of the Nursing Profession, and others interested in Social Welfare, are cordially invited to attend, and should notify their intention of doing so to the Secretary, 20, Easy Row, Birmingham (postcards preferred).

Miss Elizabeth Jackson, 36, Clarendon Street, Nottingham, is desirous of getting into communication with trained nurses residing in Nottingham and the surrounding district in order to invite them to a meeting to be held next month, when the question of forming a local association will be discussed.

The main object of the proposed association, in the preliminary organization of which Miss Jackson is acting as Secretary, *pro tem.*, is to organize post-graduate lectures, but all subjects and questions affecting nurses and their profession will be included in its scope. Any nurse holding a three years' certificate from a recognized training school, interested in the proposal, is asked to send her name to Miss Jackson in the first instance. The invitation is limited to those holding the above-mentioned qualification.

Nearly 300 members and guests attended the annual dance given in the Aberdeen Hall,

Dublin, by the Catholic Nurses' Association. Mrs. Reigh and Mrs. O'Shaughnessy helped the president, Miss Cherry, and the hon. secretary, Miss MacLaughlin, to receive the guests. The supper and music were first-rate, and the only regret was the unavoidable absence of Miss Kelly, who from its inception has taken the greatest interest in the Association.

DISTRICT NURSING.

Miss Godden, Superintendent, Queen's Nurses' Home, at 14, Wellington Road, Brighton, makes known the need for sheets, draw sheets, blankets, and all kinds of ordinary nursing appliances for the use of poor patients. The supply is not adequate to meet the needs of the calls made, owing to much illness this cold weather. Rich Brighton should not need a second reminder of the privations of its needy neighbours.

Facilis descensus Averni! We have received a notice of "The Church Nursing and Ambulance Brigade of Young Women and Girls," 134, Edgware Road, London, W., which is described as "a recognized volunteer ambulance and nursing corps for young women (organized for National Service on the Territorial System), under the patronage of over seventy Archbishops and Bishops of the Churches of England, Ireland and Scotland, and of the Director-General of the Army Medical Service." The objects as defined are admirable:—"To make the young women and girls of the nation more useful in the home, more valuable to their country, more sympathetic with the suffering, more truly followers of Christ." But when we come to the practical application of these principles, it seems time to call a halt. The Girls' Brigade corresponds to the Church Lads' Brigade, and we have an illustration of "a smart young member" in a short frock with her hair down her back. "Special value," we are told, "attaches to the work of this Corps. In many country and colliery districts the Brigade Girls, working under medical supervision, are performing all the duties hitherto performed by a paid Parish Nurse." What do County Nursing Associations, Village Nurses, and Cottage Nurses say to this? We thought we had touched the bottom level with the Cottage Nurse, but once standards are tampered with it is difficult to say what may be regarded as an adequate qualification for nursing the sick.

SCHOOL NURSING.

The Education Committee of the West Riding of Yorkshire is striking out on new

[previous page](#)

[next page](#)