

LEAGUE NEWS.

ST. BARTHOLOMEW'S HOSPITAL,
ROCHESTER.

The Matron is anxious to form a League for Nurses Past and Present who have trained and been certificated at St. Bartholomew's Hospital, Rochester.

Hospital Nurses' Leagues have proved an invigorating medium in keeping nurses in touch with their alma mater and with each other, and it is hoped this one may do likewise.

Any nurses wishing for information regarding this League are invited to write to the Home Sister, who is hoping to arrange a general meeting shortly at which rules, &c., will be discussed.

It is impossible to write personally to everyone, as home addresses have in many cases changed since the nurses left hospital.

PRACTICAL POINT.

Nurses and patients when travelling may escape much of the usual fatigue by wearing the lightest and softest of slippers instead of walking shoes. It is a good plan to carry these in the hand-bag, and change in the train or car.

THE PASSING BELL.

It is with deep regret that we record the death, in Bombay, of Miss S. Grace Tindall, Lady Superintendent of the Masina Hospital in that city, and a former President, and at the time of her death Hon. Secretary, of the Trained Nurses' Association of India.

Miss Tindall, who was trained at the Croydon Infirmary and the City of London Lying-in Hospital, had an interesting and distinguished nursing career. Her work in India began in 1907, when she was appointed Superintendent of one of the branches of Lady Minto's Indian Nursing Service. Fifteen months later she was appointed Matron of the Cama and Allbless Hospitals, Bombay, which are a training school in general nursing and midwifery for European, Eurasian, and high-class natives. Last year she resigned this position and came home for a rest, broken down in health, and most of her time in England was spent as a patient in a nursing home. She, however, returned in the autumn as Matron of the Masina Hospital, Bombay, and died practically in harness.

Miss Tindall was a member of the Matrons' Council, the Society for State Registration of Trained Nurses, the R.B.N.A., and the Army Nursing Service Reserve. In India she was on the Executive of the Association of Nursing Superintendents, on the Central Committee of the Bombay Presidency Nursing Association, and an Hon. Secretary of a local branch of the Guild of St. Barnabas for Nurses, and she will be deeply mourned by her colleagues East and West.

NURSING HOMES UNDER THE L.C.C.

THE GENERAL POWERS BILL, 1914.

The Parliamentary Committee of the London County Council reported on Tuesday that the Select Committee of the House of Commons, which is considering the L.C.C. General Powers Bill, had passed the Preamble of Parts IV. and V., giving to the Council certain powers for the registration and control of lying-in homes, nursing homes, and massage establishments. It further recommended that, at the present stage, opposition should not be offered to the intimation of certain Borough Councils that they would ask the Select Committee to insert a clause enabling the Council to delegate its powers to the Borough Councils. The Council could, if necessary, take steps to secure its deletion at a later stage.

Briefly to summarise the position. The powers sought, and approved by the Select Committee, are analogous to those desired in regard to the lying-in homes. It is noteworthy that while there is proof of the abuse of lying-in homes the police evidence was emphatic that they had "no information as to any nursing home having been improperly conducted." Mr. John Hunt, Town Clerk for the City of Westminster, said that they had no evidence that any nursing home was used for purposes of prostitution in that area. He believed all nursing homes were respectable.

Amongst the powers sought by the London County Council in the Bill, in relation to nursing homes, are that any officer duly authorised by the Council may enter and inspect premises used as nursing homes; to refuse to register the name of the proprietor, or the premises, or to cancel such registration on specified grounds, to make by-laws for the prevention of prostitution and immorality in connection with the carrying on of establishments for nursing, or special treatment, and as to the records to be kept in connection with such establishments; to require every person registered under this part of the Act to keep exhibited in a suitable place (to be approved by the Council) in the premises in respect of which he is registered a copy of the by-laws made and in force, the penalty for contravention of these provisions being £50.

The Committee decided to postpone the consideration of the question of power to make by-laws. In the case of the lying-in homes it was refused.

We hope Superintendents of Nursing Homes will, through their professional Association, approach the Council, and ask that the inspectors appointed should be thoroughly trained nurses holding certificates as sanitary inspectors, and that such inspectors should be paid salaries which will attract the right kind of woman and will place before the Council other suggestions which may in practice make the measure of utility and benefit.

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