

who is a member of the Territorial Force Nursing Service, has volunteered for foreign service, and Sister Wakefield, also a Territorial Nurse, hopes to be called up for home service.

The *Kentish Gazette*, discussing the shortage of hospital nurses and its meaning, says that one reason is that it is only the woman with kind friends or a home of her own who can afford the risk of a serious breakdown.

"After all, a woman who becomes a nun or a Salvation or Church Army worker, is ensured a home in her old age or when her working days are over. She need not worry wondering what will become of her. Perhaps that is why nuns are usually such happy creatures. They know that their simple material needs will always be provided for. But the self-sacrificing hospital nurse has no such sense of security. Even though nurses are so scarce, one never sees probationers over twenty-six or twenty-seven in the wards, and there is prejudice against elderly sisters.

"Many social reformers declare that if hospitals were nationalised and nurses became civil servants matters would improve greatly. If a woman could retire with a pension about the age of forty-five or even earlier, as a Post Office worker can, she would make an even better nurse than she does at present, because she would have such a blessed feeling of security. One ought to be fair. You tell a woman she ought to become a nurse because she is temperamentally fit for the work. And you pay her small wages and deprive her of any social life. She is practically a nun, with far more responsibility than the average nun, and without her sense of security. It is absurd. And still more absurd is it to accuse modern women of callousness just because they adopt other professions than nursing."

On Friday, July 31st, twenty nurses and midwives, members of the Gloucester City and County Midwives' Association and of the Gloucester City and County branch of the National Union of Trained Nurses, motored out to Tewkesbury via Twigworth and Leigh, visiting the Cheltenham Waterworks, Mythe Hill (by kind permission of Mr. Walker, the manager, who had made arrangements for a guide to conduct the nurses round and explain everything), and the Abbey. After tea, which was partaken of at the Victoria Rooms, the party returned to Gloucester via Corse Lawn and Hartpury after a very enjoyable outing.

Lady Nairn of Rankeillour, the newly appointed President of the District Nursing

Association in Kirkcaldy, recently opened the new Victoria Nurses' Home in Victoria Gardens, which is her own gift, as owing to the increased work, and consequent necessity for more accommodation, she purchased and presented the house, besides providing most of the furniture, and handing it over for the use of the nurses. The feu was given by Mr. John Oswald, of Dunnikier. (For the benefit of readers not acquainted with Scots law, we may explain that the word feu implies the disposal of land for building on condition of paying a stipulated annual rent.) Miss Oswald, Vice-President of the Kirkcaldy Nursing Association, presided at the ceremony, and conveyed the heartfelt thanks of the Committee to their President for her munificent gift, and presented to her a golden key.

The late Mrs. Catherine Wilson, of Wyddington, near Birmingham, left £50 to Nurse A. G. Stanley, for whose kind services she thus showed her gratitude.

Mrs. Henny Tscherning, President of the Danish Council of Nurses, has, as reported by *Tidsskrift for Sygepleje*, its official organ, interviewed the Chairman of the Borough Council in Copenhagen on the question of the nursing of the poor in their own homes.

Mrs. Tscherning expressed the opinion that a town of such dimensions as Copenhagen should have a well organized system of nursing in the homes of the poor, under the control of the Council. This would—as was realized by all those present at a meeting of citizens—have great results in increasing the birth-rate, and would powerfully assist in improving the hygienic conditions of the town.

But she opposed the latest proposition to enlarge the *Central foreningen* with any kind of sick nursing outside Copenhagen, and to include it in the capital.

The first and foremost reason given by her was one which indicates the essential difference between the *Central foreningen* and the Danish Council of Nurses, namely, that the members of the former are trained for one year, and of the latter for three years, in the same hospitals and nursing homes.

That the members of the Danish Council of Nurses are also qualified for "Small Homes" work is evidenced by the fact that in many places they work in connection with the parish nursing associations, and that their work in the City of Copenhagen at the tuberculosis stations has received the greatest recognition.

A number of members of the Danish Council

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