

NURSING ECHOES.

Now that so many members of the nursing staffs of general hospitals have been called away for service in Naval and Military Hospitals, there are many gaps which are not always easy to fill.

We have heard from a late Matron, of standing, that she is anxious to be of use at the present time, and though she has been out of ward work for some time—though she would soon get into it again—she would be quite at home in a Matron's Office, and willing to fill the post of an Assistant. We shall be pleased to furnish the name and address of this lady to Matrons who would like to communicate with her.

The resignations of six nurses employed by the Barnet Union Infirmary were before the Board of Guardians at their meeting on the 21st inst., when the Vice-Chairman, Mr. Frederick Lucas, J.P., presided.

The nurses, including Head Nurse Summers, who has been in the service of the Board for the last twelve years, were invited to appear before the Board, and asked by the Chairman to state the reasons for their resignations.

Nurse Summers at once replied that they had resigned as a protest against the unfair way in which their Superintendent Nurse had been treated. Asked by the Chairman whether there were other reasons, Miss Summers replied that the food was very badly cooked,

and they did not like the hours on duty, but the chief reason was the treatment of the Superintendent Nurse. A second nurse endorsed the reasons given by Nurse Summers. She also said that they had joints all the week; there was no variation in the food. Questioned

by the Chairman as to whether she considered the food inferior, she replied in the negative, but said it was very monotonous. This was endorsed by all the nurses, who made no complaint as to quality or quantity. The nurses having retired, Mr. Jukes said that the Superintendent Nurse suffered from want of tact and an unfortunate weakness of temper. At the same time, he thought her a very able woman.

Miss George suggested that the nurses must have some affection for their Superintendent to resign in sympathy with her.

Mr. Manning said that Mr. Jukes had spoken about the nurse having a weakness of temper and lack of tact. They must remember the other side; was there nothing to be said about the provocation, the prejudice, and about the remarks that had been made, that made some of them shudder, when she went into the room? In conclusion, Mr. Manning said that the work that had been done in the Infirmary by the nurses

would have met with the approval of the whole nation anywhere except there.

Eventually the resignations were accepted, and the Board proceeded to agree that most of



AN AMERICAN RED CROSS NURSE.
INDOOR UNIFORM.

previous page

next page