

NURSING ECHOES.

The function of the Central Council for District Nursing in London is "to keep themselves acquainted with the current provision for district nursing, and to consider the sufficiency of such provision, and so far as they may be enabled to take steps to promote the adequacy and efficiency of the district nursing service throughout the county, and if necessary to extend the area." In furtherance of this object the Executive Committee is investigating existing conditions in London, with a view to ascertaining how present organizations can be co-ordinated, how far the ground is covered, and how many more district nurses—probably about 100—are required for an adequate service. It is hoped that the Council may receive a Government grant to enable it to extend its operations.

We congratulate the District Nurses' Society, Gloucester, which is affiliated to the Queen Victoria Jubilee Institute, on a bequest of £10,000 from Mr. William Long, J.P., of Gloucester. No nurses do more valuable work, both preventive and remedial, for most modest pay, than Queen's Nurses, and those of the Gloucester District Nurses' Home have a very high reputation. We hope that Mr. Long's example may be followed by others, as so far the work of Queen's Nurses has received little recognition in legacies from the wealthy, and the national services they at present render could be largely extended, with an increased income. Also, the salaries of the nurses themselves could be augmented. Every Queen's Nurse should have a clear salary of £50 per annum.

In addition to his bequest to the Society, Mr. Long has left the sum of £100 and an annuity of £52 to Miss A. J. Little, the Superintendent, and Miss A. C. Clarke, Assistant Superintendent, £104 to Mrs. Minnie Adams, of the same Home, and the residue of his estate to the General Infirmary, Gloucester, to be known as "Long's Trust."

The South Manchester Guardians have unanimously passed the following resolution:

"That the attention of the Local Government Board be drawn to the heavy hours nurses are required to work in the hospitals, and that they be requested to hold an enquiry, with the view of limiting the hours of nurses to eight working hours per day."

In an industrial centre like Lancashire no doubt the difference between the working hours

of nurses, and their own employees, appeals to employers of labour. It was alleged by a *Guardian* that many splendid young women in their Infirmary at Withington broke down because they could not stand the strain. In her opinion the long hours debarred many suitable women from entering the nursing profession.

The annual report of the Glasgow and West of Scotland Co-operation of Trained Nurses, of which Miss Helen M. Rough is Lady Superintendent, shows a constantly increasing prosperity. Founded to provide nurses with regular employment, and a full remuneration for their services, the nurses' earnings in 1894 were £293, and the commission paid to the society £21. In 1914 the nurses' earnings were £14,525, and the commission, out of which the working expenses of the society are provided, £1,063. The total income for the year was £1,742. 6s. 2d., and the expenditure £1,447 19s. 2d. At the close of the financial year on September 30th, 1914, there were 188 nurses on the roll. Since the outbreak of war 62 nurses have volunteered for service in nursing the wounded. Some of these are now on the Continent, and a large number are engaged in the various district hospitals. Others are ready to give their services when required. At the annual meeting, at which Lady Stirling Maxwell, President, presided, ex-Bailie J. W. Stewart said that this was indicative of the spirit permeating the nursing profession all over the country.

Dr. Reid drew attention to the position created by the employment of so many nurses on active service, and said it was going to be a very serious matter.

This society incorporates the right principle of giving nurses on the staff representation on the Committee. Those appointed for the present year, in order of seniority, are Misses E. Beaton, Farquhar, E. W. Millar, and Whincup.

Under the auspices of the Ulster Branch Irish Nurses' Association, a lecture will be given by Mr. A. Fullerton on "Some of the Newer Methods of Examination of the Bladder, including the Ceptoscope," in the Royal Victoria Hospital, on Monday, February 15th, at 8 p.m.

Miss J. C. Child, the Matron of the Government Hospital, Maseru, Basutoland, has been seconded by the Union Government for service with the South African Military Nursing Service. With her experience during the South African War, her services will be invaluable.

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