

## THE IRISH NURSES' ASSOCIATION.

The lecture on "Anæsthetics," given by Dr. Pugin Meldon to the members of the Irish Nurses' Association on Tuesday, the 16th inst., at 34, St. Stephen's Green, Dublin, proved an exceedingly interesting one. The lecturer discussed his subject under the following heads:—

1. The first discoveries of anæsthetics and the progress science has made since then up to the present time.

2. A chart illustrating the effects of various anæsthetics while patients are being put under their influence.

3. What symptoms to look for, and what a nurse should do for a patient before and after an anæsthetic is given.

At the close of the lecture, Miss Michie proposed a hearty vote of thanks to Dr. Meldon, which was seconded by Miss Roberts, and carried unanimously.

The Annual General Meeting will be held on March 17th at 34, St. Stephen's Green. After the business meeting a social gathering has been arranged, on the same lines as last year.

"A Character Advertisement Competition" is the attraction for the nurses, and prizes will be given for the three costumes which are voted the best. The cost of the costume must not exceed 2s. 6d. Miss Huxley, Miss Ramsden, and Miss Reed have very kindly offered to give the prizes.

## LONG SERVICE MEDALS.

At the recent annual meeting of the Walsall Victoria Nursing Institution, held at the Council House, the Mayor presented the following members of the nursing staff with long service medals: Silver medal with one bar to Miss Holloway (lady superintendent), for thirteen years' service; silver medals to Mrs. S. F. Bird (formerly Nurse Shedden), twelve years; Nurse Evans, ten years; Nurse Nicholls, twelve years' service; bronze medals to Nurses Poole (eight years), Forshaw (eight years), Widdowson (seven years), and Sadler (seven years).

## THE PASSING BELL.

We greatly regret to record the death on February 14th, at Kraguyevatz, Serbia, of Miss Elizabeth Ness Ross, M.B., Ch.B., while on military medical duty, from typhus fever.

Miss Ross, who is the daughter of Mrs. Ross, of Craigdanod, Tain, studied medicine in Glasgow, Berlin and Dublin, and was a Fellow of the Society of Tropical Medicine. She will be remembered with the same honour as the soldier who falls at the post of duty.

## THE PASSING OF A PIONEER.

The news of the death of Miss Katherine Henrietta Monk, late Sister-Matron at King's College Hospital, will be received with the deepest regret throughout the nursing world, for Miss Monk's splendid work is known and appreciated far beyond the immediate circle of King's College Hospital, the training school of which primarily benefited by her fine system of training nurses and her great personality.

Miss Monk was trained at St. Bartholomew's Hospital, London, and was one of the most distinguished pupils of its nursing school. A most able organiser and a strict disciplinarian, her system undoubtedly resulted in adding to the ranks of our profession some of the most capable women who adorn it.

In the Registration controversy Miss Monk, when in office, was amongst those who opposed the regulation of nursing education by the State, but she was always recognised by the Matrons on the Royal British Nurses' Association, who stood firm for the principle, as a most honourable opponent.

Since her retirement from active administration when she came into personal touch with the results of disorganisation, she became more and more convinced of the necessity for legal control. Miss Monk died at Southampton, and her funeral from St. Paul's Church on Wednesday was attended by a large number of those who knew and loved her. A memorial service was also held in the Chapel of King's College Hospital, Denmark Hill.

### AN APPRECIATION BY A FORMER PUPIL.

To all nurses who were trained at King's College Hospital under Miss Monk, the news of her death will come as a very real sorrow. Sister Katherine (as we called her) was a born organiser and a splendid Matron. Nothing escaped her notice in her daily round in the Wards. I can well remember as a probationer how anxiously one awaited her criticism of any special work that happened to be going on when she was in the wards. Any praise from her was much appreciated and a rebuke was not lightly forgotten. She was intensely courteous to all with whom she came in contact, and this quality—so little practised in the present day—is one she strongly inculcated in all working under her. Particularly were we told always to give a kindly welcome to all new patients, however busy we might be.

Miss Monk never quite recovered the shock of the sudden death of her beloved friend and assistant, Sister Sibbald. She left King's some years ago on account of ill-health, and died at Southampton, after a trying illness, on Saturday last, February 20th. Hundreds of nurses will mourn the loss of their old Sister-Matron, but will be thankful that it was their privilege to be trained under one of the best Matrons any London hospital ever knew, though there may have been some at the time who thought the discipline irksome or too severe. All will now admit how valuable her methods were.

[previous page](#)

[next page](#)