

NURSING ECHOES.

Miss Kent writes from Toronto that she is still "a picker up of Learning's crumbs," but says nothing of returning to England. She and Miss Hulme are shortly going to New York to study many questions of social importance.

The Nurses' Missionary League will hold its Annual Sale of Work on November 6th, at Sloane Gardens House, S.W. In spite of the many claims made upon everyone at this time, the Committee would earnestly invite help. The past year has brought the League fresh opportunities for usefulness, and it depends largely upon the Annual Sale for its income. Useful or fancy articles, especially undergarments and children's clothes, comforts for the troops, cakes, sweets, or money, will be gratefully received, and should be sent to Miss H. Y. Richardson at the above address. Will N.M.L. members and friends kindly help to make the sale widely known?

Just now many missionary societies are feeling the effect of the war in reduced subscriptions and donations, while their opportunities for usefulness are constantly extending. There is, we know, a limit to giving, but, so far as is possible, our gifts in support of war funds should not be made by stopping regular subscriptions, but by a readjustment of expenditure. We must shoulder our own burden, not place it on the charities which we regularly support.

Miss Richardson will be At Home to nurses at 52, Lower Sloane Street, in the mornings and afternoons of Thursdays this month. A Quiet Day is being arranged for St. Andrew's Day, November 30th.

Nurses will rejoice that Monday saw the "no treating" order in force throughout London and district. Mistaken kindness upon the part of the public in paying for drink for soldiers between meals has often resulted in trouble. Good food or a cigar may still be offered, to keep up good feeling between the public and their protectors. Alcoholic drink is no man's friend.

The sad death in a bath of an Assistant Nurse in a metropolitan hospital has several lessons for the Nursing Profession. In the first place the nurse who found her in the bath stated at the inquest that the deceased was lying under warm water which was five inches from the top of the bath. She raised her head, and, there

being no sign of life, she placed her back in the bath and informed the Night Sister, who telephoned for the doctor on duty. In reply to the Coroner, the nurse said that she did not let the water out of the bath till the Sister came, as she thought she ought to let an official see her; but surely the possibility of resuscitation should take precedence of every other consideration. To let off the water and at once get help was the right procedure.

In the next place, the doctor in his evidence stated, from the signs present, that in his opinion the nurse was standing in the bath when she was seized with an epileptic fit, and falling, struck her head on the side of the bath. A blow on the head would paralyse breathing, and he did not find water in the lungs. In his opinion, death was due to suffocation from immersion following an epileptic fit. The deceased girl's sister, who is a nurse in the same hospital, stated that three or four years ago she had epileptic fits. It cannot be too strongly insisted that no woman with such a physical disability should be allowed to train as a nurse. Setting aside the instability of her nervous system, the fact that her liability to a fit at some critical moment constitutes a grave danger to herself, as well as danger and alarm to the patients in her charge, should be regarded as an insuperable disqualification.

NATIONAL UNION OF TRAINED NURSES.

A Medical Relief Expedition is being sent to Russia shortly to give help to the Polish refugees whose land is devastated, whose houses and possessions are burnt, and who have fled into Russia. It is hoped to send bales of clothing from the National Union of Trained Nurses, as it is thought that this is an object to which all the members would probably like to contribute. Suitable articles would be infants' clothing; children's clothing, such as petticoats, socks, dresses, pinafores, and little boys' trousers; women's clothing and warm shawls; and socks, shirts, and knitted waistcoats for old and infirm men. The most suitable colours are blue or grey. Gifts for inclusion in the first N.U.T.N. bale should be sent to the Secretary, 46, Marsham Street, Westminster, S.W., before November 1st.

As we go to press on October 13th, Miss Violetta Thurstan is giving a lecture on her experiences with the Belgian and Russian Red Cross, at the Women's Union, Lime Grove, Manchester. The members of the N.U.T.N. hope for a good audience to meet their organizing secretary.

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