

NURSING ECHOES.

The National Union of Trained Nurses has recently changed its headquarters to 46, Marsham Street, S.W., and the change is immeasurably for the better. Those who make a pilgrimage to Marsham Street will have no need to look for the number, for in a somewhat dingy street the house proclaims itself. With fresh green paint and spotless curtains, and every pane of glass twinkling like a diamond, it is a centre of sweetness and light which must attract the attention of all who pass up and down the street.

Inside, one at once receives an impression of the restfulness resulting from simplicity combined with harmonious colouring. As befits a house built in the reign of Queen Anne, a fine oak staircase dominates the entrance hall, in pleasing contrast to the cream-coloured walls. Those two most strenuous workers—Miss E. L. C. Eden, to whom the Union owes its existence, and Miss Violetta Thurstan, its talented organizing secretary—are both resident there, and very content they seem to be with their quarters. A peep into the office on the ground floor gives us a vista of the garden—a little bare just now, perhaps, but in order, and ready for development, a pleasant contrast to the time when the N.U.T.N. took possession, and found that its chief purpose seemed to be to provide a resting-place for dead cats and empty sardine tins. By and by, we feel sure, it will blossom as the rose.

Passing up the staircase, covered with linoleum, soft green in tone, until, as Miss Thurstan pointedly remarks, "the linoleum fund ends," we come to the large room invaluable for lectures, meetings, classes, and organization work of all kinds; and then to a cosy room where tea is temptingly prepared. In this also the walls, lined for the most part with roomy cupboards, are cream coloured, and inviting chairs with blue covers form a pleasant contrast. Through this room is Miss Thurstan's workroom, where the posters with which the Union does so much useful teaching are in the making. It conjures visions of the days when the rank and fashion of the period adjourned to the powdering-room before its toilet was complete. All success to the Union in its new home.

Miss Thurstan, on our recent visit, had just returned from a very successful tour in the North, where she spoke in Manchester, Stockport, Bolton, and elsewhere on her experiences in Belgium and Poland, an interesting subject which she deals with most vividly, and never fails to secure an interested audience.

The Local Government Board has sanctioned the granting by Boards of Guardians of war bonuses to nurses. It was found that nurses were resigning from poor-law institutions for service in military hospitals.

At a recent meeting of the Lewisham Board of Guardians, the Medical Superintendent, according to the Infirmary Committee, had reported that some difficulty has been experienced with the ordinary probationers; some of them state that the military hospital does not give them a full and proper training. The committee are of opinion that enquiries should be made as to exchange of nurses with some other institution, and have left the matter in the hands of the Clerk and the Medical Superintendent to report upon at a convenient opportunity.

We regret to note that the York and District Trades Council passed a resolution recently against substituting female nurses for male attendants, for male patients in asylums. We are of opinion that the more general use of women in the care of the male insane has resulted in nothing but good for such patients, and regret that this humane reform has not yet been introduced into the York City Asylum.

Captain Gibbon, R.A.M.C., gave a lecture on "The Treatment of the Wounded" to the Irish Nurses' Association on Tuesday. Mr. MacAuley will speak to the Association on "Bone Diseases" on November 23rd. The nurses greatly appreciate this teaching.

EXAMINATIONS AND PRIZES.

Mr. George Priestman, Chairman of the House Committee of the Royal Infirmary, Bradford, on October 13th, presented medals and prizes to the successful nurses in the recent examinations, and in doing so, congratulated them on their excellent work and the way in which they had profited from the lectures of the honorary staff and the Matron. The standard of marks obtained was excellent, and that attained by Nurse Thorpe probably constituted a record.

In the senior division, Nurse K. Thorpe won the gold medal and Nurse L. I. Jefferson the silver medal, and the following were winners of first-class certificates: Nurse Elliott, Nurse Threlfall, Nurse A. Clarke, Nurse E. M. Brown, Nurse T. Barlow, Nurse Balshaw, Nurse Nicholson, Nurse Gillott, Nurse Howell, and Nurse Bell-Brown. In the junior division, the first prize was awarded to Nurse E. M. Marvin, who obtained a first-class in all subjects, and who tied with Nurse Poucher for the first prize for bandaging. The second prize for bandaging went to Nurse M. R. Lamont, who also obtained a first-class in all subjects.

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