

## NURSING ECHOES.

Miss M. E. Rowell has sent £1 and "A Constant Reader" 5s. for Nurse N., making a total of £16 5s. We warmly thank all those who have so generously contributed to this fund. Six shillings a week can now be sent instead of 5s. for the whole year, and a little over for a rainy day. It is marvellous how a little practical sympathy makes for human happiness.

At their meeting on Saturday last the Metropolitan Asylums Board sanctioned, subject to the consent of the Local Government Board, the payment of the sum of fifty guineas for the services rendered by the examiners at the April 1916 examination of nurses at the infectious hospitals, allotted as follows:—*Principal Examiner*, Dr. Cuff, 20 guineas; *Assistant Examiners*, Miss Jones, Matron North-Eastern Hospital, 10 guineas; Dr. Caiger, Medical Superintendent, South-Western Hospital, 20 guineas.

The Ranyard Nurses are now well established in London as a most beneficent influence. They form the Nursing Branch of the London Biblewomen and Nurses' Mission. Begun largely as a philanthropic movement, it is now a highly organized association of skilled thoroughly trained workers engaged in nursing the poor in their own homes in various parts of London, and using their influence to uplift the lives of the people. A central and well-equipped storeroom supplies kit, medical stores, and appliances to the nurses. The report for 1915 is full of interesting information. Twenty per cent. of the Sisters and nurses are engaged on war nursing, but the work has been kept going with temporary help, and the effect of the war on the nursing work has been interesting in rather unexpected ways. The work has tended to increase in some cases owing to:—

(a) The fact of several of the Metropolitan Poor Law Infirmarys being closed, and a large number of the infirm patients returning to the districts and becoming the patients of the Nurses. Others who would have gone to the Infirmary remain at home to be nursed. This has been specially noticed in the Lewisham borough.

(b) The doctors, being very rushed, have been inclined to leave more work to the Nurses to do, and several reports state that more important surgical dressings are left to the Nurses than ever before.

The Nurses have naturally found their work complicated by the many other factors connected with the War, such as the sadly increased drinking amongst certain of the women and its effect on the babies and little children left outside the public-house or in neglected homes. There is, unfortunately, little time to be spared by a busy District Nurse for "social work," but one who is known and trusted has often been able to show a mother how great are her responsibilities to her little ones, and more than one home has been transformed by the patient care and teaching of "Nurse." The Committee was asked, in the autumn, to supply evidence to the Advisory Committee to the Board of Control (Liquor Traffic), presided over by Mrs. Creighton, and the Nurses sent interesting facts from their districts.

The organization and staff of ninety-seven nurses costs close on £10,000 a year to maintain; and as there was a deficit on the Ranyard Nurses' Fund of £563 17s., which had to be drawn from the general funds, a little more financial support might well be given by the public to make this branch of the mission self-supporting.

The late Mr. William Philip, of Boynds Keith Hall, Aberdeen, left £1,000 to the Inverurie Town Council, the income to be applied for the maintenance of a qualified nurse for the Burgh and neighbourhood.

The annual meeting of the Norwich District Nursing Association was recently held in the Guildhall at Norwich, at which Canon Meyrick referred to the proposed Nurses' Home in memory of Edith Cavell. He said:—"Such a Home was not yet an accomplished fact, but they must make it so. Many of them subscribed to the Cavell Memorial Fund supposing that Mrs. Cavell's wish would be fulfilled, and that her daughter's memory should still live as long as their district nurses did their work of love. In this way £540 12s. 4d. was collected. But lately very much had happened. They were extremely fortunate in their chairman. Mr. Richard Jewson, anxious to do the best for the sufferers in Norwich, anxious, too, that Mrs. Cavell's wish should be fulfilled, had more than doubled that sum—conditionally. £565 had been promised on the condition that Edith Cavell's name be definitely associated with nursing work. He believed the District Nursing Committee had already asked the chairman of the Cavell Memorial Committee to send a deputation, and for his own part he could not but believe but that Edith Cavell's

[previous page](#)

[next page](#)