

of their good work by Sir Frank Brown, J.P., the President, at the annual meeting. Sir Frank Brown said it reflected great credit upon the Matron and her staff that in spite of the high cost of provisions, &c., and the increase in the number of patients, the general expenditure of the hospital had not been much greater than it was; considering all the circumstances the staff must have been kept working at a very high pressure.

Ten district nursing associations were represented at a recent meeting of the Merioneth County Nursing Association, when the President, Lady Williams, occupied the chair, and the Hon. Secretary, Mr. D. White Phillips, explained that the principal business of the meeting was to consider the combined scheme of health visiting under the Notification of Births Act and the establishing of infant welfare centres within the county.

The County Council had adopted the scheme, and it had been approved by the Local Government Board. By this scheme the district nurses were to act as part-time health visitors and superintendents at infant welfare centres where established. One whole-time health visitor was about to be appointed by the County Council to act as county superintendent and to do health visiting in the few remote districts not now served by district nurses. The remuneration of the part-time health visitors was fixed at 6d. per visit in urban districts, and 1s. per visit for rural districts. The estimated total payable in the district associations would amount to £150. The second part of the scheme was the setting up of infant welfare centres in the county. Centres were set up at Blaenau Festiniog (now in operation), Bala, Barmouth, Corwen, Dolgelly, Penrhyndeudraeth, and Towyn. For the first year the whole portion of the expenses falling on the County Council would be borne by Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Davies, of Dinas Powis. The district nurses would receive £5 for their services as superintendents at infant welfare centres. The combined scheme of health visiting and infant welfare centre would be managed by a central committee of twenty-one members, seven to be nominated by the County Public Health Committee, seven by the Education Committee, and seven by the County Nursing Association.

Miss A. W. Goodrich, R.N., writes concerning "The New Patriotism" in *The Modern Hospital*.—

"Militarist or pacifist, whichever we may be, on one thing we shall be agreed to-day—namely, that physical fitness is a prerequisite for efficient citizenship, through whatever avenue the citizen may render his service.

Furthermore, to the citizens of a democracy, or indeed to any intelligent person, the system no longer commends itself that concentrates its health efforts on a selected group whose ultimate end is to be sacrificed in the full bloom of a physically perfected manhood on the altar of the country, and neglects the great industrial army on which the country's prosperity, even its life, depends in times of peace, and not less in times of war.

"It is not strange, therefore, to find growing up side by side with the medical and nursing corps of the United States Army the corps of a nation-wide and now generally nation-supported health movement, whose increasingly comprehensive scope of work would indicate that its ultimate purpose was to provide through all possible means that every citizen should render to the country the most efficient service, extending over the greatest number of years, and with that joy of life and labour that is the priceless treasure of the physically fit. The economic soundness of this health movement, amply proved by the result of its various activities—milk stations, school medical inspection, social service departments in dispensaries and hospitals, &c.—has aroused the interest and enlisted the co-operation of many industrial corporations, and every year sees an increasing number of physicians and nurses installed in industrial plants.

"To those sitting in the watch towers of the nursing profession the ever-increasing demands for nurses in the industrial field—themselves the working body in the new industry of health making—seem to bring closer and closer the realization of their most cherished dreams—the day when each child projected into the universe finds himself the citizen of a true democracy, a State whose paternalism is committed to the fullest protection and the development to its highest capacity of every human life, regardless of social and financial status; where the privileged class is the mentally and physically handicapped, and where the aristocracy is formed from the labourers who have rendered the most conspicuous public service.

"Again, the watchers are concerned to note that not yet does the number of nurse teachers needed begin to meet the demand; not yet does any appreciable number of schools give an adequate preparation for this field; that as sanitarians, hygienists, and workers equipped to cope with the psychological and sociological aspects of its problems, the products of training schools are conspicuously weak when they should be conspicuously strong. An aseptic conscience may be a prerequisite for a nurse, but not an aseptic mind.

"The heavy hand of tradition still holds us

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