

NURSING ECHOES.

Though Barnet Union has for the time being made over its fine new Infirmary to the War Office, it is by no means standing still. The nurses are cheerfully making the best of the drawbacks which must exist in a building of an old-fashioned type, and though they cast longing eyes at the scientific and labour-saving devices in the new building, they are, we feel sure, proud to be able to contribute these advantages to the wounded soldiers. When the happy day arrives when Peace is declared, they will come into their own with double satisfaction. Under the supervision of the popular Superintendent Nurse, Miss Jenkins, the staff have come through the stress, owing to the scarcity of trained nurses, with credit. An especial feature that calls for commendation is the skill and care bestowed on sick infants. All nurses will appreciate the difficulty connected with this branch of work, and congratulate the Barnet nurses on the low mortality rate.

We give a picture of the staff this week, taken outside their beautiful new home, Pickering Lodge, which commands one of the finest views obtainable in Hertfordshire. They should be expert in aircraft, for they are in a direct line with the Hendon aerodrome, and every machine that ascends is within view of their Home. The pretty lawn in front of the house asked loudly for a croquet set, which was kindly presented by one of the Guardians.

The Infirmary Committee of the North Bierley Infirmary have always been keenly alive to the advancement of the interests of their infirmary, patients, and nursing staff. Recognizing the claim of *trained nurses* for an adequate salary, they have now decided to commence the Sisters' salary at £40 per annum. At their meeting on August 23rd they also granted an increase of £10 a year to the Superintendent Nurse, Miss A. R. Hare. During her ten years as Superintendent Nurse the number of patients has more than doubled, and the nurses increased fourfold.

It is not every committee which generously recognizes the additional work devolving upon the responsible officer by an extension of the work and the enlargement of the nursing staff, resulting in the greater usefulness and efficiency of an institution, and both the committee and Miss Hare are to be congratulated.

An honorarium of £20 has also been granted to Dr. Cunliffe, medical officer, "for the excellent work in preparing the probationers for their examinations," with an understanding

that the question of his salary shall be considered at the end of the war.

The Report of the Argyll Nursing Association, which has now twenty-eight nurses at work in the county, states that it is a great satisfaction to be able to say that in the midst of the turmoil of war, and the disorganization consequent, the Argyll Nursing Association has been able to maintain its work, and even to increase the number of the nurses belonging to it by placing a Queen's Nurse for the Island of Luing and the adjacent group of Islands off Easdale, where the presence of a highly trained nurse is most important, as in the event of stormy weather, help cannot be sent from the mainland, and immediate medical assistance may be required.

By the kind invitation of Mrs. Ebdon, President of the Nursing Association, a large and representative company of subscribers to a parting gift to Miss A. Slater, the district nurse, who had resigned on account of her approaching marriage, assembled at Newton House, Elvanfoot, to witness the presentation. This took the form of a beautifully fitted dressing-case, accompanied by a very handsome sum in Bank of Scotland and Treasury notes. Mr. John Morton, J.P., Whelphill, chairman of the Executive Committee of the Association, presided. The esteem for Miss Slater personally, and for the value of her services, which animated the whole meeting, was expressed in a letter from the Rev. C. M'Kune, who testified to Miss Slater's excellent work; to her care, prudence, and skill; to her ever-ready attention at all hours and in every kind of weather.

The presentation was made by Mrs. Ebdon, and Miss Slater warmly responded. The bride-elect has now been called up for war service on a hospital ship, so that the marriage may be deferred for a time.

The correspondent of the *Yorkshire Post* at Montreal reports that, answering an appeal from the New York physicians who are fighting the dread infantile paralysis plague in that city, a large number of Canadian nurses started yesterday for the hospitals in New York to give their services. At the American border, however, they were refused entry by the immigration authorities. This refusal was based upon the regulation of the Contract Labour Board of the United States, which denies entry to any persons engaged in advance. Appeals to Washington thus far have been without avail, and there is a decidedly uncomfortable feeling here over the matter.

[previous page](#)

[next page](#)