

NURSING ECHOES.

At St. Thomas's Hospital, the Archbishop of Canterbury on April 25th dedicated a memorial which has been erected to the memory of Miss Florence Nightingale. The Archbishop said this memorial had been put in the right place, at the right time, and for the right purpose. It was entirely appropriate that a memorial should be erected at St. Thomas's Hospital, with which the nursing work of Miss Florence Nightingale was so very closely associated. It had been placed in the hospital chapel, where the religious life of the institution was centred to inspire the whole. It had been erected at the right time, when the greatest strides had been made in women's life, and it served to commemorate as an example, and to inspire those who in the present day are the representatives of the whole enthusiasm of her skill and of her deftness. The memorial is a replica of the bas-relief erected in the crypt of St. Paul's, and unveiled by Her Majesty the Queen twelve months ago, of which we published an illustration at the time. It represents Miss Nightingale as a nurse attending a wounded soldier, framed in alabaster, and is the work of Mr. Arthur G. Walker.

The Southwark Infirmary Nurses' League, which was founded in 1914, issues an Annual Register instead of a League Journal. The Infirmary has become Southwark Military Hospital, and fine work in aid of our sick and wounded is now being carried on there. The Matron, Miss Wallace, and her full staff remain, with 80 probationers and many V.A.D.'s. The probationers are sent in detachments (four Seniors and eight Juniors) for three months at a time to Lambeth Infirmary for experience in the nursing of women and children.

The spirit of the League is thoroughly sound. In spite of all the changes it is written "Our Nurses' League holds on, and though we have little time to attend to ourselves we must keep it alive and healthy and active, for these abnormal times will pass, and other times will come, when we shall have to be of service to one another." We are all looking forward to the time when we members of the National Council of Nurses of which the Southwark Infirmary League forms part, may once more enjoy our Conferences, and promote the highest ideals of the profession.

The Annual Register is excellently printed on fine paper, and contains illustrations of groups of nurses and doctors in pretty military uniform, and khaki.

On Saturday evening last Mrs. Lauriston Shaw addressed an interested audience on the subject of the St. Marylebone Nursing Homes War Savings Association at No. 3, Nottingham Place, by kind invitation of Mrs. Fleming. Mrs. Arthur Stabb, the Hon. Treasurer of the Association, announced that she would be at home on Tuesday afternoons at 132, Harley Street, W., to receive contributions, which are placed on the cards as stamps. Several of those present took cards after the meeting, and more announced their intention of so doing.

At the recent Annual Meeting of the Cheltenham General Hospital, the very efficient work of the Matron, Miss Falconer, and of the Secretary, Mr. Head, received well-merited appreciation from the Mayor of the town.

The Right Rev. the Lord Bishop of Manchester will hold a Dedication Service in the Chapel of the Manchester Royal Infirmary on Sunday, May 6th, 1917, at 3.15 p.m., when a Memorial to the late Sister French will be unveiled.

We have had several letters lately, not for publication, but drawing our attention to the food question in hospitals. All agree that the dieting of medical cases especially needs attention, and whilst realising the difficulties under which the commissariat is run in war time, seem to think if dietetics were more generally studied, both by doctors and nurses, conditions would be improved. One nurse writes:—"I have been having a spell of hospital work, after some years private nursing. The food of the patients seems to me the most urgent question to be considered. It is much worse than it was in my hospital days, and not, necessarily the result of war conditions. Instead of being one of the most important items of treatment, dietetics are not considered treatment at all. I wonder why? Why do not nurses and Sisters have to keep a dietary record of each patient for the medical attendant? They report the result of drugs—which don't matter so much, or only in conjunction with the digestive functions. If patients cannot or do not eat their food, it does not seem to matter, when, in fact, it is often the most important matter in their recovery. America is far ahead of us in this particular, as in many other nursing details."

"Sister from France" writes:—"I shall never be grateful enough for having worked in France. I have learned the language, and I have learned not to make fun of 'little Mary'; so very much depends upon 'her' with

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