

NURSING ECHOES.

Please do not omit to read the Petition to the Prime Minister on the inside cover on page ii of this issue, and having done so, to sign it if approved, and return to the address indicated.

We want thousands of Nurses who believe in State Registration to sign this Petition, so that they may help to make the Rules and Regulations to which they will have to conform when a Nurses' Registration Act is in force.

Free copies of the Petition can be obtained from the Hon. Secretary, Nurses' Petition, 431, Oxford Street, London, W. 1.

Members of the Matrons' Council will be interested to know that one of their number, Miss E. Purvis, Lady Superintendent of the Nurses' Home, Middlesborough, has been sworn in as a special constable. She writes:—"We have gone beyond the Women Patrols, and are under the jurisdiction of the Chief Constable of Middlesborough."

The National League of Nursing Education (formerly the American Society of Superintendents of Training Schools for Nurses) has, conjointly with the American Nurses' Association, held its Twenty-third Annual Convention at Philadelphia, when a most instructive and interesting programme was discussed by both societies. A cablegram was sent off to Mrs. Bedford Fenwick informing her that she had been elected an Honorary Member of the National League—an honour deeply appreciated by her, especially at this time, when American and British nurses are working side by side in Europe in closest harmony in aid of the sick and wounded. Now that Miss Nightingale and Miss Isla Stewart have passed away, Mrs. Fenwick is the only British Hon. Member of the American Nurses' Association, with whose high ethical standards and deep sense of professional responsibility she is so warmly in sympathy, and to the Annual Conventions of which she always receives a cordial invitation.

The Educational Work of the American Red Cross is of a very practical nature. Miss Delano, Chairman of the National Committee, and Miss Noyes, Director of the Bureau of Nursing Service, are now established in their large and airy offices in the magnificent new Red Cross Building at Washington, erected "In Memory of the Heroic Women of the Civil War." White marble floors and wainscot and soft-coloured wall colours predominate. It

takes four rooms for the work of the clerical staff, to say nothing of files and records.

Under the direction of the Bureau of Nursing Service three courses of instruction are being given: elementary hygiene and home care of the sick; home dietetics; and preparation of surgical dressings. The book on *Home Dietetics*, prepared by Ada L. Fish, has finally been received, and classes have been started in many places. The enrolled Red Cross Dietetic Service is attracting large numbers of able women; it is believed that such a service will ultimately prove a valuable asset to the country.

A sum of £262 13s. 2d. has been raised in Ireland as the Irish Memorial to Edith Cavell, the heroic nurse who gave her life for her country, and the committee have handed over the amount to the Royal City of Dublin Hospital for the endowment of a bed in her memory. It was hoped that the £500 necessary to endow a bed in perpetuity might have been obtained, and the committee greatly regret that they were unable, in consequence of the innumerable calls for war charities, to raise so large a sum.

We are glad to learn that the authorities of St. Bartholomew's Hospital, Rochester, have rearranged the salaries of the probationer nurses. Formerly candidates provided their own uniform for the trial period, and received £8, £12, and £16 salary for the first, second and third years. They now receive £10, £14, and £18 respectively, and the cost of approved uniform is refunded to them when they are accepted after the trial period. Under the existing regulations a certain number of nurses who consent to remain for a fourth year receive six months' training in massage at a special hospital. A course of sick room cookery is also given by the Kent Education Committee.

METROPOLITAN ASYLUMS BOARD.

We have received the list of successful candidates at the April Examination of Nurses held under the auspices of the Metropolitan Asylums Board. 109 candidates entered, of whom 76 passed. Of these 3 were staff nurses, all of whom passed, 51 probationers, 39 of whom passed, 2 assistant nurses (class 1), 1 of whom passed, 53 assistant nurses (class 2), 33 of whom passed.

In the examination of probationers the maximum number of marks obtainable was 600. The gold medal was won by Miss M. Page, South Western Hospital, Stockwell, who obtained 96.5 per cent. of full marks, the silver medal by Miss F. M. Tufnail, South Western Hospital, 93.5 per cent. and the bronze medal Miss E. Laidlaw, Western Hospital, Fulham, S.W., 93.2 per cent. These figures surpass all previous records.

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