

NURSING ECHOES.

The Trained Women Nurses' Friendly Society held its Annual Meeting at 431, Oxford Street, W., on May 23rd. A very satisfactory Report was presented, and the Hon. Officers were all re-elected.

The financial condition of the Society is extraordinarily good considering the number of members, an average of £400 a year having been saved and invested annually since its inception. This proves that matrons and nurses are very capable of managing their finances, and how absurd it is, with their keen sense of economy, all their money should be managed by men. Nurses should send for Forms and join their own professional Approved Society, and pile up savings so as to be ready by and bye to secure additional benefits.

A nurse once said to us: "Women know nothing of business; I always feel more confidence in a pair of trousers." With so many women doing men's work—and wearing the dual garment in which the aforesaid nurse had such unlimited confidence—this argument will not hold good for the future!

At a reception given by the lady members of the Overseas Club, Aldwych, to Mrs. Lloyd George, several prominent nurses had the pleasure of being presented to her. Amongst them Miss Conyers, R.R.C., Matron-in-Chief, Australian Army Nursing Service; Miss Macdonald, R.R.C., Matron-in-Chief, Canadian Contingent; and Miss Claridge, A.N.S.R., late Matron-in-Chief, Trained Nurses' Department, Order of St. John.

A Meeting of the School Nurses' League was held at Eustace Miles Restaurant on Saturday, May 19th, when the nurses discussed various topics of interest, and a representative was elected to be present at the special meeting arranged by the Co-operative Sub-Committee of Health Workers to give some account of the work of the School Nurse.

This should prove an interesting subject, as showing the progressive steps, commencing with the care of the child from birth, succeeded by the attention of the Health Visitor, and finding its completion in the kindly care of the School Nurse, commonly called "Our Nurse."

Probationers' salaries are being raised in many hospitals, and not before time. If a probationer receives a salary, it should be adequate to her needs. The time may come when

well-organized costly nursing education in hospitals will compel committees to charge for training, but until more is spent on a defined curriculum, and shorter hours of work possible, the present salaried system will continue. We are informed by the Secretary of the Royal Halifax Infirmary that the Board has recently increased the scale of salaries for probationer nurses for three years' training from £6 to £10 first year, £10 to £14 second year, and £16 to £18 third year.

Close on forty years ago we were taught bandaging by a pupil of this school, then a Charge Nurse at the Children's Hospital, Nottingham. It was our ardent ambition to excel the miraculous manipulations of the bandage by this expert, a feat, alas! we never accomplished. No doubt the standard of surgical technique at the "Halifax Royal" continues to excite the admiration of competitors.

We are glad to note that under the will of Mr. Joseph Taylor, of Great Barr, the Walsall and District Hospital (always associated with the name of Sister Dora) benefits to the extent of £20,000, the Walsall Victoria Nursing Institution receives £10,000, the Queen's Hospital, Birmingham, £5,000, and other hospitals and charities substantial bequests. We are always glad when money is left to benefit District Nursing Associations in which Queen's Nurses are at work. We are of opinion that testators cannot get better value for their money.

Miss Grace Elliott, acting as a nurse at the hospital at Steventon, Abingdon, Berkshire, who has been missing since March 19th, has returned to her home at Jesmond, Newcastle-on-Tyne.

She rode out of Abingdon on her bicycle in the afternoon, and for two months all trace of her was lost. Her description and photograph were published in the press, and when last week she applied to the Royal National Pension Fund for Nurses, she was recognised and was sent home to Newcastle.

A whole column of letters appears this week in the *Sunday Times*, headed "Benevolent Fund for Nurses." Miss A. Millicent Ashdown, R.B.N.A., is the lone defender. She asks: Why are nurses only to be precluded from sharing in the benevolence of those whose sympathies have been aroused by their work and self-sacrifice? Miss E. L. C. Eden writes

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