

NURSING ECHOES.

It is understood that the Cabinet have had under consideration the proposal for the setting up of a Ministry of Health, and that they are favourably disposed towards it. Ministers have decided, however, to obtain the views of insurance, health, and friendly societies before taking a final decision on the matter.

This JOURNAL has long advocated this reform, in which Nursing will play such a valuable part.

The Annual Service for the East London Nursing Association was held in the Crypt of St. Paul's Cathedral on Tuesday, June 12th, at 3 p.m. There was a good attendance of nurses. The preacher was the Rev. J. D. Carter, Warden of the Home of the Holy Rood, Worthing. He took for his subject the love of God, and pointed out that it was only by contemplating His wonderful love for man, as manifested in the incarnate life of Jesus, that it was possible for human nature to show love for others. The preacher said he could speak from experience of the work of the East London nurses, as he had spent ten years in Poplar, and knew how they had carried the message of love into those poor homes, and how they ministered to sick and maimed bodies with something of Divine love. Theirs was a great vocation. The hymns, "O God, our help in ages past" and "Gracious Spirit, Holy Ghost," were sung, and the service concluded with prayer and war intercessions. Afterwards the nurses were invited to go round the Crypt. Florence Nightingale's memorial, of course, was the occasion for much admiration.

The new badge of the Training School of the Royal Infirmary, Edinburgh, is now ready; it is in the form of an indented oval brooch, $1\frac{1}{4}$ in. high, in silver gilt and enamel. The design in the centre has been taken from the crest of the hospital, and represents the legendary pelican feeding her young with blood from her breast; this is carried out in bas-relief, and round the edge is a dark blue enamel ribbon with the words "Royal Infirmary, Edinburgh, School of Nursing." Each brooch bears the name and number on the Hospital Register of the Nurse to whom it is issued. The badge has been designed and executed by Messrs. Hamilton & Inches, Goldsmiths, Edinburgh, and will in future be issued to each Nurse when she gains her certificate. Former certificated Nurses of the training school who would like to have the badge should write to the Lady Superintendent of Nurses for an authority to purchase it. (The

full name should in all cases be given.) The cost of the badge, including engraving and postage, is 6s. 6d.

Miss A. M. Peterkin, 26, Castle Terrace, Edinburgh, Superintendent of the Scottish Branch of Queen Victoria's Jubilee Institute, will be glad to hear from married and retired nurses, and others, especially Queen's Nurses, who are willing to undertake district work at the present time. For the City of Glasgow application should be made to the Superintendent, Higginbotham Home, 218, Bath Street. Miss Peterkin says that the Institute already owes a debt of gratitude to Queen's Nurses and others who have come forward and are "carry-ing on" during the war.

The Honble. Arthur Stanley had a meeting with the British Women's Hospital Committee at the residence of Viscountess Cowdray last week, and urged that the charity appeal for the Nation's Nurses, or rather the College of Nursing, Ltd., should be continued, and it is probable that the peeresses on the committee, who are strongly for pushing the appeal, will carry the day. The actresses, who first formed the committee, who are professional women, understand the point of view of the professional nurse, but apparently are not sufficiently strong to oppose the social element. We wonder how the dramatic profession would like Trained Nurses to hold them up as cadgers for cash in the middle of this war, and appeal for public charity for them. Surely they would find the position too intolerable for a moment's consideration.

If Mr. Stanley and his male colleagues who control the College Company cannot cover expenses by the guinea fees charged the nurse members, let them appeal to their fellow-members to finance the scheme, or reduce their large expenditure.

Anyway the State Registrationists repudiate the appeal in the name of the "Nation's Nurses," to many of whom the whole suggestion is most humiliating.

We learn that "no controversy is to be permitted in the press," so presumably the newspaper peers will not permit the scheme to be criticised! Thus is a "free" people governed! They manage these things better in Russia!

Under the heading of "Begging for Nurses" the *Medical Press and Circular* expresses the following opinion in its issue of 30th May:—In the unsuccessful propaganda in Ireland and Scotland on behalf of the College

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