

a week, equivalent to an expenditure of about £200, had been distributed. Special grants for long and meritorious service amounting to £97 13s. 6d. were awarded to some of the older members of the company. £1,000 had been invested in War Loan.

Efforts were being made to standardise and improve the educational status of nurses in the direction of State Registration, and it was to be hoped that the working nurses would take an active interest in the establishment of the new Irish Nursing College, inaugurated by the Royal College of Surgeons of Ireland. This College could only succeed if worked on democratic lines, so that the trained nurses, as distinct from the hospital matrons, would have a real voice in the control of the executive body.

The success of the institution was in no small measure due to the energy and devotion of Miss Carr, the Lady Superintendent.

The fifth annual meeting of the Nurses' Insurance Society of Ireland was held at the office, 29, Gardiner's Place, Dublin, on July 3rd, 1917. The minutes of the last general meeting were read and signed. The Secretary, Miss Kearns, reported that since the last annual meeting 152 members had joined the Society, fifteen married, three emigrated, two entered convents, and three died. A large percentage of members are on active service or employed in military hospitals at home. Fifty members claimed sickness benefit, amounting to £178 13s. 10d. Seven members received disablement benefit, totalling £61 13s. 1d. One received maternity benefit of £3. Administration had cost £93 12s. 2d. The Secretary regretted to say that so far nothing definite has been arranged by the War Office for Nurses who have lost their health on active service.

Since this report was made a Royal Warrant has been issued under the Ministry of Pensions regulating the Pensions of Nurses disabled in the present war, belonging to the Imperial Military Nursing Service and the Territorial Force Nursing Service, but, so far as we can gather, nothing has yet been done to meet the needs of nurses working in military hospitals outside these two Services, and it is such nurses who come on to their Approved Insurance Societies for weeks when invalided out, at 7s. 6d. a week—a help, but a very insufficient one.

THE ROYAL HOUSE OF WINDSOR.

The King has issued a Proclamation declaring that the name of Windsor is to be borne by his Royal House, and relinquishing the use of German titles and dignities. A most popular reform.

THE MATRONS-IN-CHIEF AT THE LYCEUM.

A very successful dinner convened by the Women's Medical Service was given at the Lyceum Club, 128, Piccadilly, W., on Monday, July 23rd, when the Matrons-in-Chief of the Canadian, Australian, and New Zealand Army Nursing Services—upon whom, on the proposition of Mrs. Bedford Fenwick, Chairman of the Executive Committee, the Hon. Members of the Club has been conferred—were the guests of honour.

Dr. Florence Stoney, of the Fulham Military Hospital, presided, and gave a very interesting account of her work from the outbreak of war. She humorously described the difficulty she and her colleagues had in obtaining work in this country, and how, after being informed by Sir Frederick Treves that "radiography never was and never would be any use in warfare," she and her colleagues went to France and Belgium to prove that the care of the sick in all its branches can be successfully undertaken by women. She very much resented the fact that British medical women had not got army rank, whereas any medical man took his place in the nation's Army, and was given the rank which was his due. In the absence of Surgeon-General Sir Neville Howse, K.C.B., V.C., Colonel Parkes of New Zealand, C.M.G., D.D.M.S., proposed the toast of the "Women's Medical Service," and said what a revelation it had been to the whole world to at last realise "the great capacity of women." He hoped when the honours were distributed to women, those who had taken part in the war nursing and medical work would be very highly rewarded.

"The Nursing Service" was proposed by Colonel Adami, D.D.M.S., Canada, who took up vigorous defence of the V.A.D.s and deplored the amount of "charing they had to do," to which Miss Macdonald, R.R.C., Matron-in-Chief of the Canadian Nursing Service, very wittily replied, "As we employ no V.A.D.s," she said, "we are fully qualified to hope they will have all the recognition they deserve when war is over. She was glad the V.A.D.s had such powerful champions as Colonel Adami, and surmised that he and their other supporters would take them into their own homes and place all the confidence in them that they would place in a fully-trained nurse." Replying also to the Colonel's demand for exemption from "charing" for nurses, Miss Macdonald said that anyone who was not "capable of charing" had no business in a hospital.

Miss Thurston, R.R.C., stated how willingly New Zealand had come to help the Mother Country and that all the nurses of their Service were not only fully qualified but State Registered.

Miss Conyers, R.R.C., gave similar testimony as to nursing qualifications for Australia. The system of registration in Australia has not yet got the imprimatur of the State.

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