

**NURSING ECHOES.**

Sir William Selfe, at Marylebone County Court, ruled that a nurse who went out to cases on her own account could not claim under the Workmen's Compensation Act, for the twofold reason that she did not contract for service but for services rendered, and that her employment was of a casual nature, inasmuch as a nurse was called in only as occasion arose, and was not part of the regular staff of an establishment.

The ruling appears very hard on a private nurse, who is always wise to work under a responsible committee on a co-operative basis, so that she can be insured under the Act, although it is not drawn to meet the dangers to which a nurse may be subjected outside the sick-room. This comes of legislating for extern workmen and compelling intern women workers to come under the Act. Nurses are always being "done for" by legislators who know absolutely nothing of their special needs.

The General Meeting of the Nurses' League of St. Bartholomew's Hospital, Rochester, to be held on Saturday, September 1st, promises to be a very interesting one. In addition to the ordinary business, Miss Helen Pearse will read a paper on the National Union of Trained Nurses, and Miss Le Geyt will speak on the ideals of the Society for the State Registration of Trained Nurses. At the conclusion of the meeting there will be a Garden Party in the Nurses' Garden. Those who were present at the delightful meeting of the Matrons' Council, held by invitation of Miss Pote Hunt, Matron of the Hospital, and President of the Nurses' League, and learned something of the charm of this ancient city and its interesting old hospital, will realize that the members and their guests may expect a delightful afternoon. Rochester is a city in which one could spend many days without exhausting its interest.

**LAVENDER BAGS.**

Now is the time for gathering sweet lavender, and if any of our readers will make and forward bags of this fragrant flower to the Editor, 20, Upper Wimpole Street, London, W. 1, she will distribute them to military hospitals, where they will be greatly appreciated.

The Editor begs to thank Miss Olive S. Parke for a box containing 25 bags of lavender, which have been sent to Queen Alexandra's Hospital for Officers at Highgate.

**QUEEN VICTORIA'S JUBILEE INSTITUTE****TWENTY-SEVENTH ANNUAL REPORT.**

The twenty-seventh annual report of the Council of Queen Victoria's Jubilee Institute to the Patron, Her Majesty Queen Alexandra—the report for the year 1916—states that while the work of the Queen's Institute has once again been carried on under extremely difficult conditions, the year under review has been remarkable for great and increasing activity in all branches of health work. The schemes for Maternal and Child Welfare Work have received a great impetus from the grants promised by the Local Government Board and the Board of Education. In many districts the Queen's Nurses are assisting with the Maternity Centres and Schools for Mothers, their special training and experience making them particularly suited for this work. There is also a constant demand for their services to fill posts as Health Visitors, either in connection with the affiliated Associations or as whole-time officials under the Health Authorities. In order to make the nurses as efficient as possible, arrangements have been made in London for special courses of lectures on Infant Care Work, and later on it is hoped that similar instruction may be given in other parts of the country.

At the end of 1916, no less than 589 Queen's Nurses were away from their districts for work in connection with the war. In the Military Hospitals, abroad and at home, in the Clearing Stations, on the Hospital Ships and Ambulance Trains, in fact wherever the call for trained nurses is heard, there the Queen's Nurses are to be found giving of their best to help those who have been injured in the great conflict. The Council are gratified to be able to report that many testimonies have been received from the authorities concerned with the provision of nurses for the wounded, as to the special value of the Queen's Nurses, whose training enables them to cope successfully with emergency conditions, and to work, wherever necessary, without the appliances which are readily available in a well-organized hospital.

Fifteen Queen's Nurses had received the Royal Red Cross, and three Queen's Nurses (members of the French Flag Nursing Corps) have received decorations from the French Government.

The Council report with deep regret, and yet with a sense of pride, that four of the Queen's Nurses have given their lives in their country's service—Miss Ada Stanley, Miss Mary Burt, Miss Jessie J. Paterson, and Miss S. E. Butler.

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