

### PRIZES FOR NURSES.

The eleventh annual distribution of prizes to the probationer nurses at the Islington Infirmary, Highgate Hill, took place on April 11th. Mr. W. H. Andrews (Chairman of the Infirmary Committee), presided; and those present included Sir John Tweedy (past-President of the Royal College of Surgeons), Dr. Robinson (Medical Superintendent), Miss Wallen (Matron), Mr. E. Davey (Clerk to the Board of Guardians), Mr. Neville (Vice-Chairman of the Committee), and other Guardians.

The Chairman announced that he had received a telegram from the late Matron (Miss A. Little), congratulating the prize winners.

Sir John Tweedy then distributed the prizes, as follows:—

Smalley Prizes.—(1) Nurse Ellingham; (2) Nurse Virgo; (3) Nurse Woodruffe.

Leonard Marshall Prizes.—(1) Nurse O'Neill; (2) Nurse Harrison; (3) Nurse Watson.

Special prize for highest number of marks in junior examinations.—Nurse Cadogan.

At the conclusion of the distribution, Sir John Tweedy gave an address. He said that, in the first place, he should like to congratulate the nurses who had won prizes; but, after all, the prizes were only of passing interest—the permanent and abiding interest in their work was in the future. Sir John particularly impressed upon the nurses the importance of cultivating a practical active sympathy for the patients under their care, concluding by wishing them "God-speed" in their noble work.

### NURSING ECHOES.

The Edith Cavell Home in the London Hospital grounds will be opened by Queen Alexandra early in May, and Sir George Frampton's bust of Miss Cavell unveiled.

The Westminster Guardians, at their last meeting, received a report from the Infirmary Committee, who stated that they had had under consideration a petition from the Probationer Nurses at the Hendon Infirmary with regard to the training they receive owing to the lack of acute cases, and also in regard to their remuneration and work. The Committee, after having had two special meetings to consider the matter, and having received a report from the Medical Superintendent, have come to the conclusion that the Infirmary can no longer be maintained as a training school for nurses, and recommended that it should be converted into an infirmary for the treatment of tuberculosis. An amendment to refer back the recommendation was lost. It is presumable, therefore, that this school, which, under the able superintendence of Miss Elma Smith,

has turned out so many excellent nurses, will no longer be available for training purposes, a decision which we, with many others, profoundly regret.

A special Council Meeting of the National League for Opposing Woman Suffrage has decided unanimously to dissolve the League. A large number of delegates from various parts of the country, presided over by Lord Wear-dale, decided that the surplus funds, amounting to some thousands of pounds, should be devoted to the Royal National Pension Fund for Nurses, to be specially applied, as far as possible, during the war to the Queen Alexandra Relief Fund for War Nurses.

We are informed that, except in the case of annuitants resident outside the United Kingdom, the Pension Fund for Nurses does not deduct Income Tax, and that the managers are compelled by the Acts of Parliament to deduct the tax and pay it to the Inland Revenue authorities for annuitants resident outside the United Kingdom. This points to the wisdom of Overseas Nurses having their own Pension Schemes.

The work of the district nursing associations throughout the country is done so quietly and unostentatiously that it is sometimes in danger of being overlooked, and does not receive all the financial support it deserves. Its full value, perhaps, is only known by the sick poor, who look forward the twenty-four hours round to the visit of the nurse, which brings physical and mental relief, and who count the hours till she comes again.

The war has necessarily increased the burden of the Newport (Mon.) Nursing Institute in Commercial Road. Many of the cases attended have been wives, children, and dependents of men who have served or are still serving their King and country. The knowledge that their loved ones when ill are being cared for must be a great comfort.

Miss H. D. Smith, the Superintendent and foundress, who, from the foundation of the Institute up to the present moment, has worked untiringly and at great self-sacrifice, together with the nurses, who go about their duty at all hours of the day and night, are to be congratulated on the success of their efforts.

We regret to learn that the Hon. Treasurer; Mr. L. H. Hornby, D.L., has to report a deficit on the year's working, and that at the present moment the Institute is without funds. Surely this condition of affairs has only to be known to be rectified.

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