

On Wednesday in last week the Lord Mayor and the Lady Mayoress of Liverpool entertained 600 nurses from the local military hospitals at a reception, when a number of artistes contributed to the enjoyment of the evening by their music and humour. Light refreshments were served, and the function was brought to an end by an enjoyable impromptu dance.

We always find something refreshing and worth reading in the Nurses' League Journals, because they are written by nurses to nurses, and ring true. The *Journal* of the Leicester Royal Infirmary Nurses' League, which appears annually, is edited by the President, Miss G. A. Rogers, the former Matron, who inaugurated the League. In her Letter to Fellow Members, Miss Rogers writes:—

"My sympathy goes out to all who are feeling a little war weary after three years of work—and more especially to those living under the menace of enemy aircraft by day and night; how great the strain is only those who are passing through it know. When I was in Florence I used to wonder at Botticelli's famous picture of Fortitude; I could not understand the artist's point of view. May I quote to you what Ruskin says on it? 'Everybody else's Fortitudes announce themselves clearly and proudly. They have tower-like shields, and lion-like helmets, and stand firm astride on their legs, and are confidently ready for all comers.

Yes; that is your common Fortitude—very grand, though common. But not the highest by any means. Ready for all comers, and a match for them, thinks the universal Fortitude; no thanks to her for standing so steady, then! But Botticelli's Fortitude is no match, it may be, for any that are coming. Worn somewhat, and not a little weary, instead of standing ready for all comers she is sitting, apparently in reverie, her fingers playing restlessly and idly—nay, I think nervously—about the hilt of her sword. For her battle is not to begin to-day, nor did it begin yesterday. Many a morn and eve have passed since it began; and now—is this to be the ending of it? And if this, by what manner of end?

That is what Sandro's Fortitude is thinking, and the playing fingers about the sword-hilt would fain let it fall, if it might be; and yet how swiftly and gladly will they close on it, when the far-off trumpet blows, which she will hear through all her reverie!

So when you 'would fain let the sword-hilt fall, if it might be,' will you think of Botticelli's Fortitude? For you, too, are not called to the

common, but to the highest kind of Fortitude, the kind of which our nation is in sore need."

The Leicester League enjoys the singular honour of including Miss L. L. Dock, the Hon. Secretary of the International Council of Nurses, the famous American Champion of all that is best for women, as one of its Vice-Presidents.

The *N.U.T.N. Quarterly Magazine* announces the resignation of Miss Violetta Thurstan as Secretary of the Union—a very sad loss indeed. Miss Thurstan has, as we have announced, been appointed Matron of the Scottish Women's Field Hospital on the Macedonian Front, and we must all sympathise with our young and valiant nurses in their very natural desire to be in the forefront of this struggle—in positions of personal danger, if need be, in caring for our sick and wounded defenders on land and sea. Dry-as-dust work—guarding and guiding the progress of nursing organization at home—has become the duty, in these critical times, of those who are considered "on the shelf" in so far as active service at the front is concerned. Very few people are endowed with genius, so let us hope that our gifted "Violetta" will come safely through her new venture, and, when peace reigns once more, she will return to find her special talents in request for the progressive organization of the profession she so greatly adorns.

The National Association for the Prevention of Infant Mortality and the Welfare of Infancy announces a Course of Advanced Lectures on Infant Care for Nurses, Health Visitors, and others, on Mondays from January 28th to April 22nd, at 1, Wimpole Street, W., from 5.30 to 6.30.

The course is in preparation for the advanced certificate of the National Association, and from the Syllabus the subjects of the lectures should prove very interesting and instructive.

QUEEN VICTORIA'S JUBILEE INSTITUTE

TRANSFERS AND APPOINTMENTS.

Miss Harriet P. Moore is appointed to Blackburn, as Superintendent; Miss Charlotte L. Norman, to Brixton, as Superintendent; Miss Mary Smith to West Sussex C.N.A., as Co. Superintendent; Miss Constance M. Campion, to Guildford; Miss Louisa Hall, to Marple Bridge; Miss Minnie McLean, to Nelson. Miss Margaret Morgan, to Langwith; Miss Hilda Staniforth, to Liverpool (West).

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