

NURSING ECHOES.

The Report of Lady Minto's Indian Nursing Association for 1917 records the retirement in May of Mrs. Davies, Chief Lady Superintendent of the Association since its earliest days, and the appointment of Miss R. E. Darbyshire, R.R.C., as her successor. It places on record that Mrs. Davies' zeal and devotion have proved of the greatest service, and the perfect order in which she left the affairs of the head office is an eloquent testimony to her business capacity and years of hard work.

A scheme has been inaugurated for maintaining small nursing homes, principally for maternity cases, in Simla and Delhi. It is anticipated that these Homes will meet a real need.

The Chief Lady Superintendent states in her report that the greatest difficulty encountered during the year has been the serious depletion of the nursing staff, and the impossibility of supplying the needs of the Association from England. Though short-handed the branches have done a great deal of good work, and seven members of the staff loyally remained on after the expiration of their contract, in spite of the attractions of other branches of their profession.

The fees charged to patients have been raised by 1 rupee per diem, and the salaries of the nursing staff raised. The Lady Superintendents of the Provincial branches receive an additional 30 rupees per month, Sisters an increase of 10 rupees per month in the third and fourth year, and a further increase of 10 rupees a month in the fifth year of service.

The commencing salaries of Nursing Sisters have also been increased to 90 rupees a month, increasing annually till 135 rupees a month is reached in the tenth year.

The rules relating to the engagement and employment of Nursing Sisters have been revised, and those relating to agreement, discipline, and refunds made somewhat more stringent.

The value of the skilled help of trained Sisters cannot be too highly estimated, and there is evidence that they are appreciated. Thus in connection with the Rajputana Branch the reports of medical officers and patients are said to be invariably commendatory and frequently laudatory. "Anxiety disappears when your well-trained Sisters take charge of a case" is a typical instance.

As usual, the report is admirably produced and illustrated.

We are glad to learn that, owing to a Petition

organized by Miss Charlotte M. Märkwick, and sent to the Governors of the Victoria Infirmary, Glasgow, the scale of the salaries of the nursing staff has been substantially raised:—

In the 1st year from ...	£12—£16.
In the 2nd year from ...	£16—£20.
In the 3rd year from ...	£20—£25.
In the 4th year from ...	£30—£40.
For the Sisters from ...	£45—£60.

There are other points which the nurses would like to bring before the Governors, but are hampered in their action for lack of legal advice. This is one of the things which they hope may be made available when their new Club is opened in Bath Street.

We are always seeing nonsensical paragraphs in the quack nursing press and elsewhere, making statements about our views and opinions, which we have never expressed—penny-a-line trash which presumably is good enough for the type of person who reads these unprofessional publications.

If anyone cares what we think, and wishes to know what we say, we advise them to subscribe to this JOURNAL. They would then not be fobbed off with twaddle.

LEAGUE NEWS.

The second number of the *League News* of the Royal Infirmary, Bradford, just issued, contains many interesting items, including a Foreword by Major Phillips, Hon. Surgeon to the Infirmary, who, talking on Reconstruction, says that one feels quite sure that after the war, as before it, and during it, there will be reason to be proud of the work of nurses, and that any woman who takes up that work will be employing herself in a profession in which she can find occupation for all that is in her. The fortunate people in the world are surely those whose work is also their hobby. The first essential of a hobby is that its possibilities can never be exhausted; it must be an El Dorado which is unattainable. . . . The zest of the business lies in the fact that, however splendid the collection may be, it is always, will always continue always to be possible to improve it. And so with nursing. There are many nurses who know a tremendous lot about nursing. It has been my privilege to know not a few nurses whose work has been just splendid; but there has never been a nurse who was a perfect nurse in the sense that she knew all there was to know about nursing.

Amongst the letters from nurses that by Miss M. Wroe on A Visit to Seville is specially interesting.

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