

NURSING ECHOES.

Mrs. Bedford Fenwick, in her private capacity—and not as Editor of this JOURNAL—begs to thank most heartily the hundreds of colleagues and kind friends who have sent congratulations on the passing of the second reading of the Central Committee's Nurses' Registration Bill. If good wishes can land it on to the Statute Book, there it will be, without doubt, at an early date. Many earnest prayers are being offered upon its behalf.

It has been suggested that when the Bill receives the King's Assent, a Thanksgiving Service shall be held in London. Such a service would undoubtedly be largely attended by trained nurses, and the suggestion is under consideration.

We have to thank the *Vote*, the organ of the Women's Freedom League, for constant support of our Bill during its consideration by Parliament. The members of this progressive League are rejoicing in our good fortune, and lay stress on the fact that "Nurses were asking neither for public money nor for charity; they want to be a self-supporting and self-respecting profession." The *Vote* hopes the Nurses' Bill will be passed into law this session.

Queen Alexandra opened the Edith Cavell Home for Nurses at the London Hospital on April 11th. Her Majesty was received by Lord Knutsford and Miss Monk, the Matron, and in the nurses' sitting-room by the Danish Minister and members of the Danish Committee in London, who had collected £7,000 towards the million half-crown fund for the hospital. The Danish Minister told Queen Alexandra, "Your compatriots regarded it as an opportunity of showing their loyalty and love."

Queen Alexandra declared the Home open in English, and spoke her thanks in Danish, and presented two signed pictures of herself in Coronation robes to Mr. Ladefoged, Chairman of the Danish Club, for the club and the Danish Society respectively.

Mr. Arup, director of the Copenhagen Porcelain Manufacture, presented the Queen with a charming figure of a Danish Red Cross Nurse in Danish porcelain.

Queen Alexandra then visited some of the nurses' rooms, of which there are 122, and inspected the general arrangements for the comfort of the nurses.

The London Hospital Committee is waking up, we are glad to note, on the question of more up-to-date theoretical teaching for probationers. It has recently engaged a Tutor Sister to help the class sister. Though her work has not yet been definitely defined, one of her chief duties will be to give individual teaching to those probationers who have missed lectures and instruction classes through illness or other causes. In this way every effort will be made to enable them to take full advantage of their training.

This is all to the good.

It is understood that arrangements are being made for the removal of the remains of Miss Edith Cavell from their present resting-place to this country, and that the re-interment will be marked by considerable public ceremonial.

The negotiations with the several authorities concerned, both Belgian and British, are being conducted, but as several obstacles have to be overcome before the undertaking can be carried out, it is not likely to take place before the month of June.

It was at first intended that the matter should be privately conducted, but it was felt that national sentiment should have an opportunity of expression, and it has been suggested that military honours should accompany a service in London. So far the details of the interment have not been settled.

The Cavell Memorial Committee have written to the Westminster City Council stating that Sir George Frampton, R.A., the sculptor, expects the Cavell monument will be ready for fixing in position in about three months' time. The site selected by the Council is on the island situated in St. Martin's Place, opposite the National Portrait Gallery.

The Nurses at the Royal Southern Hospital, Liverpool, work seventy-two hours per week—as they do at hundreds of other hospitals and infirmaries. But the subscribers at the recent annual meeting were informed of the urgent need for increased remuneration and decrease of hours for the nurses. Mr. Thomas Woodsend stated that the conditions under which the nursing staff fulfilled their duties called imperatively for revision and improvement. The matter of the salary could be easily adjusted, but the rearrangement of the working hours presented some difficulty. To carry out a plan which commended itself to the Board they would require thirteen more nurses, but they had no accommodation for them in

[previous page](#)

[next page](#)