

NURSING ECHOES.

The Royal Sanitary Institute has now issued its programme of the courses of lectures and demonstrations for the Autumn Session. Those arranged to assist students for the examination for women health visitors, school nurses, maternity and child-welfare workers, will commence on Wednesday, September 24th, at 6 p.m. Candidates for these examinations must possess a nursing qualification. Further information may be obtained from the Secretary, E. White Wallis, Esq., F.S.S., 90, Buckingham Palace Road, S.W.1.

At the annual meeting of the Cambridge and District Workers' Hospital Fund the other day, Miss Crookenden, Matron of Addenbrooke's Hospital, in reply to the chairman, who expressed the appreciation of the members of the Fund for the kind treatment they received from the nursing staff of the hospital, said it was their privilege to be able to help the sick and suffering in Cambridge and district. She would like to ask the Committee and collectors of the Fund, when collecting money, to point out to subscribers that their workers received at least adequate pay for an eight-hours' day, and that the nurses in the hospital were working twelve hours a day, and sometimes fourteen. Subscribers would then, perhaps, realise that a larger staff was required at the hospital, which meant greater expenditure. If people would only double their subscription, it would mean a lot. The nurses were hoping to get a 56-hour week in the near future, but an adequate staff would mean a further nine or ten nurses, and a further expenditure of £1,000. At present the Hospital Committee did not feel justified in adding that £1,000 to the expenditure of the hospital.

An article from the pen of Miss Beatrice Kent appears in *The Vote* this week, entitled "Army Nurses, Their Demobilisation, Disablement and Unemployment," in which she laments that there has not been, since the Armistice, a better system of organisation for those women whose work the Prime Minister recently eulogised in the House of Commons.

She suggests that there are openings for war-weary nurses who desire and require a change of work. Judging from the remarks of Poor Law Matrons and others there are still posts for those who are willing to undertake nursing work which may offer.

Miss Emily J. Haswell, Matron of the Comité Britannique, Croix Rouge Française,

is to pay a two months' visit to the United States of America, and during her visit hopes to make the acquaintance of many leading American nurses, and enquire into various progressive nursing movements and new educational systems for nurses. Miss Haswell carries with her introductions to her American colleagues, and will we feel sure greatly enjoy and benefit by association with women whose names are now a household word in Europe, in connection with their work for the uplifting of nursing both before, and during, the war.

Miss L. L. Dock, Hon. Secretary of the International Council of Nurses, writes from U.S.A. :—"At last your long struggle for Registration has finished its first chapter! Chapter two, a Government Bill! I think that is, actually, extremely satisfactory. Your new Ministry of Health is a progressive venture in government. It will have great influence and power in health matters, and will be closely associated with nurses. It is bound to be a somewhat democratic—even socialistic—department. It is almost impossible that it should not be very enlightened and forward-looking. It will necessarily come into close contact with Labour, and I should not risk a guess in surmising that Toryism, as such, will be missing at its councils. From the Minister's statement, and specially from his rebuke (for it amounted to that) of the College because of its trying to combine the functions of teacher and examiner in one, and also of its endeavour to control conditions for workers, from all his remarks I gather a most hopeful and encouraging set of impressions. It is quite evident that Tory reactionary influence in your midst is still strong enough to make endless trouble for a private member's Bill, and so it is well for the Government to come to your rescue. You have votes now. Women will be quite well treated in Government measures now I don't doubt.

"Your Major Barnett is certainly a dear. You have had wonderful champions, haven't you? I hope you are going to write the History of the Thirty Years' War. But I'm afraid your house will be bombed if you do, for truth is so much disliked and disapproved of."

The opinions of this keen nurse-historian and organiser are of the utmost value to us, and she always sees eye to eye with us.

Many of Miss J. C. Child's friends will be interested to hear she has arrived in South Africa. She is resuming work as Matron of the Leribe Hospital, Basutoland.

[previous page](#)

[next page](#)