

### THE RANYARD NURSES.

The Report of the Ranyard Nurses (the Nursing Branch of the Ranyard Mission, 25, Russell Square, W.C.1) is always interesting, and that for 1918, just received, especially so. After referring to the anxieties and excitements of the war it continues:

"We cannot review the year without referring first to the epidemic which swept the world and was most acute in London during the autumn months. It almost made one despair, for do what we would in certain cases, once the disease got a hold in its worst form no nursing seemed of any avail. There were many tragic instances of children left orphans, young men home on leave who had passed scathless through the war succumbing to this plague, mothers dying with their babies yet unborn. Yet it was just nursing which, in other cases, saved the situation. From most nurses came the same tale of the very long hours, and many patients, of whom only the most urgent could be assisted, but all did what they could. Several of our own staff were ill, and one—Nurse Wells—laid down her life in this service. Nurse Wells had endeared herself to everyone during the ten years of her district work in Wandsworth, and is greatly missed. It is only little by little that we hear of all she did for her people, and learn of all the sympathy and devotion which are needed, in addition to skill, to make an ideal district nurse. We give thanks for yet another who has witnessed to the high vocation of the nursing profession.

"The epidemic has served to emphasise again the need for district nursing—and we hope that those who find it impossible to obtain private nurses will look with more sympathy on those districts where, even in normal times, no nursing help is yet available. . . .

"In the early days of 1915, when the Zepelins first visited North London, Nurse Reed was the first to make her way over the débris to visit the old folk in the Bakers' Almshouses, where considerable damage was done and a good many of the inmates terribly alarmed and several injured. She wondered how she could scale the wall, but, like Peter of old, she found the door opened before her by the force of the explosions. None of the Nurses were injured by the raids, though often in the midst of damaged areas and able to assist many a victim in the days that followed, even if not actually at the time. It is difficult already to remember that it is only since Whitsuntide that London has been free from these terrors.

"The long strain has told on many, it has not been easy to continue the work, and many deserve great praise for the way they have persevered, perhaps especially the older ones, who returned to take their share of the country's burdens in this way. The work has not only involved nursing, but a very true sharing of the sufferings, the anxiety, the sorrow of others, especially those who have lost loved ones in the war."

### APPOINTMENTS.

#### MATRON.

Westhulme Infectious Diseases Hospital, Oldham.—Miss Mary Agnes Graham has been appointed Matron. She was trained at Beckett Street Infirmary, Leeds, and had been Matron at Calverley Moor Hospital, Huddersfield, and Home Sister at Bradford Fever Hospital.

#### HOME AND NIGHT SISTER.

Royal Berkshire Hospital, Reading.—Miss Alys N. Hutton has been appointed Home and Night Sister. She was trained at the Royal Salop Infirmary, Shrewsbury, and has been Sister at the General Infirmary, Macclesfield, Night Sister and Ward Sister at the General Hospital, Walsall, and the Miller Hospital, S.E.

Miss Vera Hollick has been appointed Home and Night Sister in the same institution. She was trained at the General Hospital, Cheltenham, and has done district work in Canada, and has also held the position of Sister at the Alexandra Hospital, Queen Square, London, in the Children's Ward at the Salisbury County Hospital, and in a Military Ward at the Royal Victoria Hospital, Boscombe.

#### SISTER ANÆSTHETIST.

Norfolk and Norwich Hospital, Norwich.—Miss B. H. Daniels, R.R.C., has been appointed Sister-Anæsthetist. She was trained at Guy's Hospital, S.E., and worked on its private nursing staff for four years, after which she was Sister, in the Ophthalmic, Throat, Ear and Orthopædic Wards. In 1914, she joined Queen Alexandra's Imperial Military Nursing Service Reserve, and went out to France, where she worked as Ward Sister, Home Sister, Night Superintendent, and for the last year as Sister Anæsthetist.

#### SISTER TUTOR.

Queen Mary's Hospital for Children, Carshalton, Surrey.—Miss Margaret Sophie Riddell, R.R.C., has been appointed Sister Tutor. She was trained at St. Bartholomew's Hospital, London, and subsequently was Holiday Sister and Night Sister at the Royal Hospital for Sick Children, Edinburgh, Assistant Matron at the Chelsea Infirmary and at the Royal Hospital for Sick Children, Edinburgh. From 1915 to 1918 she was Matron of the Scottish Section, No. XI Stationary Hospital in France. Miss Riddell has had some experience in teaching, having delivered a course of lectures to Red Cross Nurses at the South-Western Polytechnic Institute.

### THE PASSING BELL.

We regret to record the death of Miss Sybil Reece, R.R.C., who was drowned while bathing in the Glaslyn Estuary. This is the second fatality of a similar nature which has occurred to nurses quite recently.

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