

NURSING ECHOES.

The Association of Trained Nurses in Public Health Work has decided to use THE BRITISH JOURNAL OF NURSING as its official organ, as nearly all the members take the Journal. To this arrangement the Editor is pleased to agree, and as far as space permits will do all in her power to further the work of Public Health Nurses. We think certificated trained nurses must realise that their profession is at a very critical stage of its development, and without real self-sacrificing devotion to its interests, and independent organisation, it will be impossible to raise its status and gain for it, from the State and the public, recognition of its very responsible work in the scheme for the betterment of National Health. It is incredible, as we report in another column, that Trained Nursing is to have no representative, or any recognition as an ancillary service to medicine, on the Consultative Council of Medical and Allied Services, or indeed on any of the Consultative Councils for England nominated by the Minister for Health—himself a medical man.

The Ministry of Health have sanctioned the following salaries in respect of the nursing staff at the West Ham Union Infirmary, Whipps Cross:—Matron, £175 per annum, rising by £12 10s. annually to £200 per annum; Assistant Matron, £135 per annum, rising by £5 annually to £145; Tutor Sister, £125 per annum, rising by £5 annually to £135; Home Sister, £110 per annum, rising by £5 annually to £120; Office Sister, £100 per annum, rising by £5 annually to £110; Night Superintendents, £85 per annum, rising by £5 annually to £95; Ward Sisters, £70 per annum, rising by £2 10s. annually to £90; Staff Nurses, £55 per annum, rising by £2 10s. annually to £60; Probationer Nurses, £20 first year, £25 second year, and £30 third year.

This is a great advance on the previous remuneration of the Nursing Staff, and with everything found in these expensive times, will no doubt thoroughly satisfy them. We could have wished to see the Matron's arduous and responsible duties valued at a somewhat higher figure. In comparison with other head officials, especially young doctors, the scale is not generous. This infirmary contains some 750 beds, and we suggest that the Matron's salary should not commence at less than £200 for 500 beds, and £250 for 750 beds. Few

Guardians or members of the public realise the strain of the Matron's Department in these days.

We are always lost in admiration at the manner in which the *Poor Law Officers' Journal* is edited. It appears to get Poor Law nursing news well in advance of any other journal, and reports nursing politics in a very fair and understanding manner.

The Township Infirmary at Leeds is to lose the very valuable services of Dr. Faith, who is going to Manchester, and on the eve of departure he was presented with unlimited expressions of goodwill, and with an obstetrical outfit by Dr. Allan, the Medical Superintendent.

Miss F. Parker Spann, the Matron, speaking on behalf of the Nursing Staff, thanked Dr. Faith for the great help he had been to them, not only in the lecture room and the wards, but also as a devoted friend. The Nurses' League, she continued, was under very great obligation to him, because without the "Journal," which he edited, the League would have been impossible. She hoped he would accept their gift that night as a token of that appreciation and esteem which he had won from the staff during his years of service, and especially during the arduous and trying days of the influenza epidemics.

In reply, Dr. Faith, who was enthusiastically received, thanked his colleagues for their kindness to him in a most feeling manner, and said:—"You will forgive me if I dare not trust myself to speak of all I owe to Dr. Allan, Miss Spann, and the rest of the staff; and I refer not only to the present staff, but also to that goodly company since I have been here, who came, finished their time, and passed onward. I hope that this poor return I make in these simple words will find its way to many scattered friends, who still retain pleasant memories of happy hours spent here, and who, I am glad to say, still keep in touch with us and with each other through the medium of the Nurses' League.

"I cannot hope to find words to thank you for your very valuable, very practical, and very magnificent gift. I can only say that I am very proud, but also very undeserving of the sentiments of goodwill and friendship which I know accompany it. I thank you from the bottom of my heart, and wish you goodbye; and wish you, while you are here, good comradeship, fellowship and friendship; and when your time comes to leave, I wish you treasured memories such as those I carry away with me."

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