

Coming events cast their shadows before. Miss Juliet Curtis, late Sister Colston at St. Bartholomew's Hospital, has been appointed Examiner in Practical Nursing in the final examination of nurses at the above hospital.

When the State examinations are instituted by the General Nursing Councils, a new and extremely interesting branch of work will be open to trained nurses, for which they must soon begin to qualify themselves, *i.e.*, for appointments as Examiners in Practical Nursing. These should be honourable, well-paid posts, which should attract well-educated and highly trained nurses with the faculty of teaching.

As we reported, during the discussion of the Scottish Nurses Registration Bill in the House of Lords, exception was taken by the Earl of Kintore to a provision in the Bill securing to a medical woman the position of examiner in nursing under the Act. The nurses present thoroughly sympathised with the contention of the noble Earl if he was alluding to skilled nursing: "However much we wish that women should have equal opportunity in the professions, I do not think that at the present moment women medical practitioners have any experience in teaching, lecturing, or examining. I do not think that they have interested themselves much in the subject."

What the nurses will require will be that their teachers and examiners under the Acts, both in the theory and practice of nursing, shall be highly qualified for their responsible positions, and we contend that both the teaching and examining in practical nursing should be conducted by experts—the Registered Nurses themselves.

Great preparations were made in hospitals and infirmaries this year to keep Christmas in right royal style. The day of decorations, with dust-gathering greenery, has given place to a form more suited to institutions devoted to the care of the sick. But the wit of Sisters and Nurses finds a way to hold high festival, and patients and staff alike enjoy the sacred season.

Mr. Walter Child Clarke, of Boscombe, has given £10,000 for a nurses' home for Bournemouth Hospital.

An important judgment concerning the responsibility of a railway company for travellers' luggage deposited in their cloak room was given recently at the Birmingham County Court which trained nurses will do well to note.

The plaintiff, Miss Gladys Kathra, a nurse, sued the Joint Committee of the London and North Western and Midland Railway Companies to recover £64 4s., the value of a suit case containing personal belongings which the plaintiff deposited in the cloak room at New Street Railway Station, and which was not restored to her.

The plaintiff's case was that she placed the suit case in the cloak room on Platform 4 whilst she went to get hotel accommodation; when, three hours later, she returned for her bag, it had gone, and has since been declared lost.

The counsel for the railway companies contended that they were not liable, because on the back of the ticket given to the plaintiff when 2d. was paid were the printed conditions of acceptance in which the committee repudiated responsibility in respect of any article deposited of which the value exceeded £5, unless when deposited the true nature and value of the article were declared, and 1d. per £1 of the declared value paid each day, or part of a day, in addition to the cloak room charges. The Judge, in giving judgment for the railway companies, said that the law applicable to the facts was beyond controversy. The plaintiff was not entitled to recover. She did exactly what a large number of travellers did daily, but they took the risk, which in this particular case had proved disastrous. The printed conditions on the ticket were the terms of contract, and while he felt sympathy with the nurse, the verdict must go against her.

HONOURS FOR NURSES.

The King has given orders for the following appointments to Orders, for valuable services rendered in connection with Military Operations, dated June 3rd, 1919:—

FRANCE.

ORDER OF THE BRITISH EMPIRE.
O.B.E. (MILITARY DIVISION).

Appleton, Miss E. E., Acting Sister, Q.A.I. M.N.S.R.

THE ROYAL RED CROSS (SECOND CLASS).

Miss G. E. G. Bell, V.A.D., Queen Alexandra Hosp., Dunkirk; Miss E. S. Surman, Sister, Queen Alexandra Hosp., Dunkirk; Miss G. Youatt, Sister, Queen Alexandra Hosp., Dunkirk.

ITALY.

ORDER OF THE BRITISH EMPIRE.
O.B.E. (MILITARY DIVISION).

Croft, Miss G. M., Commdt. V.A.D.

THE ROYAL RED CROSS (FIRST CLASS).

Mrs. F. E. McEwan, Sister-in-Charge, Q.A.I. M.N.S.R.

[previous page](#)

[next page](#)