

### NURSING ECHOES.

The visit paid by the Queen last week to the Imperial Nurses' Club, 137, Ebury Street, S.W. 1, was a complete surprise, the first intimation the Hon. Secretary and Lady Superintendent, Miss C. H. Mayers, had of it being Her Majesty's arrival at the Club. The Queen went into the dining-room, where members of the Club and their guests were having tea, and seemed interested in the old Irish colour prints on the walls. It so happened that the flowers on the little separate tables were rather choice, for a kind friend of the Club in the country who frequently provides it with flowers had sent a supply of orchids. The lounge looked decidedly as if it were popular, having that untidy, disarranged sort of air that a newspaper room is apt to wear. From the writing-room window the Queen particularly noticed the little garden, which adds so much to the pleasure of the members, and it seemed to please her. While in the drawing-room she asked about the number of Nursing Sisters who had used the Club during the war, a question Miss Mayers could not answer off-hand. She tells us that it is difficult to say how many individuals have used the beds, but she knows the number of beds used. They were 1,633 in 1917, 3,868 in 1918, 8,456 in 1919; total, 13,957. There is thus no doubt as to the increasing popularity of the Club.

Her Majesty Queen Mary visited Queen Mary's new and permanent Hostel for Nurses at 194, Queen's Gate on Saturday afternoon, March 13th. She was received by Sir Harold Boulton, Chairman, and the Committee, the Hon. Staff, and Mrs. Dundas, Superintendent, and the other ladies of the resident Staff.

Her Majesty placed in position a small brass tablet, on which it is stated that "this house was equipped by £2,000 given by the Australian Government, in recognition of the hospitality shown to Australian Nurses during the Great War." After this ceremony Her Majesty inspected the whole house, and the nurses who were waiting in the drawing-room were all presented to her.

Her Majesty then signed the visitors' book, and on passing out to her carriage stopped to speak to the maids who were lined up in the hall, congratulating them on their long service in the Hostels.

Her Majesty was graciously pleased to express her approval of all she saw, and her kindly interest in the working of the Hostel is much appreciated by all concerned.

The Queen, attended by the Lady Mary Trefusis, visited the City of Westminster Union Infirmary, Fulham Road, on March 17th. Her Majesty's visit gave great pleasure to the nursing staff, engaged in a branch of nursing work of which the value is not yet fully recognized, but which is a most important branch of public service, and to the patients, who have little variation in their lives, and to whom the Queen's interest in their welfare is a joy.

The late millionaire, Lord Astor, left property valued for the purposes of the English grant at £421,963 4s. 10d., which is disposed of by the English will. Amongst his bequests was one of £2,000 to his nurse, Miss Mary Jeffreys, who attended him for many years, and whom, we believe, he treated generously during his lifetime.

An extraordinary state of affairs is alleged in the report made to the Hastings Board of Guardians by the new Medical Superintendent and Master Doctor, Mr. E. L. White. In the report complaints are made regarding the lack of staff and accommodation, and the milk supply is condemned.

It is stated that there is a lack of bathing facilities, and dissatisfaction exists among the staff about food. The report states that when a lad was brought into the infirmary with an injury to his throat there was no needle to sew the wound up with, and no saline to give him.

The sick wards are condemned, and the doctor appeals for more nurses, adding that some are leaving, another is on the verge of a nervous breakdown, and one is suffering from delusional insanity.

The Guardians are divided over the report, one half supporting the doctor, the other half being against the report. Local Labour is condemning the Guardians, and for the Guardian elections has two candidates in the field.

The Canadian National Association of Trained Nurses, which raised funds to send thirteen nurses to France, as members of the French Flag Nursing Corps, had a bank balance of 169 dollars. It was decided to send this surplus to Miss Annie I. Browne, a graduate of Toronto General Hospital, who had gone to France to help in reconstruction work. Miss Browne was appointed Supervisor of the orphans at the Orphelins de la Guerre, Vielle Chapelle, Marseilles, and the committee felt the money would be well expended by purchasing necessities and a few luxuries for the little orphans.

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