

Nurse J. Swift; 2nd, Nurse Frances Rees. Practical nursing: 1st, Nurse V. Woodington; 2nd, Nurse O. Colman.

The prizes were distributed by Mr. Mervyn King, the oldest member of the Nursing Committee, who claimed that there were no better nurses in England than those who came from that hospital.

The character of the volumes selected by the nurses for their prizes showed that they desired to increase their knowledge of professional subjects.

The guests took tea with the Matron, Miss Densham.

The Duke of Northumberland presented the prizes and certificates to the successful probationer nurses at the Wingrove Hospital, Newcastle, last week.

The nurses who gained prizes and certificates were:—

Third-year certificate, 1st Heath prize and 1st Guardians' prize: Nurse Connelly.

Third-year certificate, 2nd Heath prize and 2nd Guardians' prize: Nurse Harking.

Third-year certificate, 3rd Heath prize, and 3rd Guardians' prize: Nurse Gordon.

Third-year certificates: Nurses Farbridge, Park, Wilford, Pearson, Scott, Hewitt, Gray, Street, Jackson, and Wilson.

Second-year Heath prizes: Nurse Allan, 1; Nurse Johnson, 2; Nurse Friend, 3.

First-year Heath prizes: Nurse Whittock, 1; Nurse Selby, 2; Nurse Gibson, 3.

After complimenting the prize-winners, his Grace observed that there were some things which we did better than other people, in this country, and a few which we did worse. He was quite sure that the British people stood apart as regards nursing. That they were infinitely better than any other nation at nursing had been proved by the war.

Miss Baron, the new Matron, was congratulated by Mr. J. E. Scanlon, the Chairman, and a vote of thanks to the Nursing Staff was moved by Mr. F. F. Worthington and warmly agreed.

COMING EVENTS.

December 3rd.—Royal British Nurses Association. A Conference on Burning Questions. 11, Chandos Street, Cavendish Square, W.1. 3 p.m.

SCOTTISH NURSES' CLUB.

A series of three lantern lectures will be given in the Scottish Nurses' Club, 205, Bath Street, Glasgow, by Dr. McGregor-Robertson, on the following dates:—

(1) "The Principles of Food," Friday, December 3rd, at 7.30 p.m.

(2) "Application of Principles to Adult and Infant," Friday, December 10th, at 7.30 p.m.

(3) "Diet and Disease," Friday, December 17th, at 7.30 p.m.

December 10th.—General Nursing Council for England and Wales. Monthly meeting. Ministry of Health, Whitehall, S.W. 2 p.m.

December 11th.—Professional Union of Trained Nurses. Meeting to discuss the insecurity of the position of the Trained Nurse with regard to earning a livelihood. Scottish Nurses' Club, 205, Bath Street, Glasgow. 3 p.m.

December 16th.—Central Midwives Board. Monthly meeting.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR.

Whilst cordially inviting communications upon all subjects for these columns, we wish it to be distinctly understood that we do not IN ANY WAY hold ourselves responsible for the opinions expressed by our correspondents.

CONGRATULATIONS SHOWERED ON MISS MAUDE MacCALLUM.

To the Editor of THE BRITISH JOURNAL OF NURSING.

DEAR MADAM,—Owing to the exceedingly large number of telegrams and letters of congratulation I have received on the result of my action for libel, I find it impossible to reply to them individually, as I should like to do. May I, through the medium of THE BRITISH JOURNAL OF NURSING, express my most grateful thanks to all who have written to me.

I feel overwhelmed by the expressions of good will and kindness showered upon me.

Yours faithfully,

MAUDE MACCALLUM.

Evelyn House,

62, Oxford Street, W.1.

HOURS OF EMPLOYMENT BILL.

To the Editor of THE BRITISH JOURNAL OF NURSING.

DEAR MADAM,—As you request each of us to give our opinion on the "Hours of Employment Bill"—*i.e.*, 8 hours a day for nurses—I should like to refer to a few of the many sides of the question. One feels sure that this ideal life for nurses now proposed, with sufficient time for study and recreation, ought to attract many suitable candidates for training, and those who, with shorter hours on duty, might thus, without breaking down in health, be able to complete their training, and also to enter at an earlier age, the life not being so strenuous. Another inducement might be that fully-trained nurses could look forward to being given the preference in such appointments as those in the Public Health Departments, &c. I fear to touch on the financial question, which, I am sure, is a grave one, owing to the present difficulties in our large hospitals. Will the Government help in any way in giving grants? This new order, one would suppose, would mean an increase of almost one-third of their nursing staff in hospitals and would naturally imply more house room for those newly-added nurses, which might mean the proposal of boarding and sleeping out, in which those who are not yet qualified would lose that peculiarly far-reaching "cared-for" existence which one would say is most essential for those who are yet in their probation days.

I would venture to say that for private nurses the Bill would be quite impracticable, though protection of a less restricted kind would give them more recognition and good standing in the nursing world, should it come to pass that hospital nurses are included in the Bill.

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