April 9, 1921

NURSING ECHOES.

The readers of THE BRITISH JOURNAL OF NURSING will note with sympathetic delight the announcement made by Her Royal Highness Princess Christian, the President of the Royal British Nurses' Association, in this week's official organ, in which she notifies the realisation of many of its aspirations for the welfare of its members, and the materialisation of its scheme for a Nurses' Residential Club.

Founded in 1887 for the co-operation and mutual benefit of the members of the nursing profession, and for their organisation through a system of Registration, let us hope that now the pioneer Association of Nurses has passed the inevitable period of opposition reserved for reformers it will, in its beautiful new home, become a centre of enlightened professional and social intercourse for trained nurses, and that thousands will join the ranks of the Royal Chartered Corporation and help to carry on its beneficent work.

Princess Christian, President of the Workhouse Nursing Association, has written to the Westminster Board of Guardians asking them to set apart wards in the infirmary for the treatment of persons whose financial position has been so impaired by the war that, in sickness or infirmity, their condition is one of real privation.

In their reply the Guardians, while expressing sympathy with the views of the Princess, say that they have no legal power to act in the manner suggested.

On reading the long list of Ministerial changes announced last Saturday, many nurses learned with regret that Dr. Addison would no longer preside over the Ministry of Health. The great service rendered by Dr. Addison to the Nursing Profession in placing on the Statute Book a Government Act for the Registration of Nurses in England and Wales, followed by Acts for Scotland and Ireland, will not be forgotten by those nurses who promoted this reform; nor is it possible for us at present to estimate the immense benefit which may result from these Acts for the benefit of the community, if wisely and fearlessly administered. Dr. Addison is to be Minister without portfolio, and we hope he will continue to take an interest in the development of the Nursing Profession.

The Right Hon. Sir Alfred Mond, Bart., M.P., late First Commissioner of Works, is to be Minister of Health. Miss Agnes J. Watt, who has resigned the position of Matron of the Radeliffe Infirmary, Oxford, which she has held since 1897, was, last week, in the presence of a representative gathering, presented by Lord Valentia, on behalf of the subscribers, with a gold wristlet watch, bearing the inscription, "The Radeliffe Infirmary remembers Miss Agnes J. Watt's work. Matron 1897-1921," and a cheque for $\pounds 250$.

Lord Valentia said for over twenty years Miss Watt had occupied the most important position in the Infirmary, and had fully justified the high reputation with which she came.

In placing the watch over her wrist, Lord Valentia said: "I present you, Miss Watt, with this watch, and may the hands of it never point to a sad hour in your future existence." He hoped the keepsake would remind her of the many friends she had made in the City.

The Nursing Staff of the London Temperance Hospital, Hampstead Road, N.W.I, assisted by friends, will give a dramatic and musical entertainment on April 13th, 14th and 16th, in the Out-Patient Hall, at 8 p.m., in aid of the building fund of the new Nurses' Home.

Things are very well done at the L.T.H., and those who support the entertainments by taking tickets may be assured not only that they are supporting a very good cause, but that they will spend an extremely enjoyable evening.

At the recent annual meeting it was stated that plans have been drawn up for the new Nurses' Home and the isolation block. The King's Fund have approved of the plans, and have promised to give $\pounds 6,000$ from the surplus Red Cross funds, provided the Board can raise a similar amount by an early date. Steps have been taken to raise the amount, and now about $\pounds r,800$ is required to reach that sum.

Many women who first went into hospital during war days were attracted to that intensely fascinating subject, X-ray work. At the first examination of the Society of Radiographers eight of the eighteen candidates were women. Of the nine students who passed, four were nurses from the Great Northern Central Hospital, two of these being ex-V.A.D.'s. Naturally the Sister in charge of the department, who, by the way, has been doing X-ray work at the hospital for fourteen years, is very proud of their achievement. The training takes a year.

A very discouraging report was presented at the recent meeting of subscribers of the North



