

NURSING ECHOES.

Many friends of Miss Edith Macfarlane, R.R.C., will be glad to hear that she has been appointed Lady Superintendent of St. George's Hospital, Bombay. We believe she has sailed already to take up her new duties. Many who remember her excellent war service will unite in wishing her "bon voyage." In recognition of her service during the war she was awarded the Royal Red Cross, 1st Class with Bar, and was mentioned in despatches.

She was previously Matron of the Royal Ear Hospital, London, for seven years, and received her training at St. Bartholomew's Hospital, where she won the Clothworkers' Prize.

New rates of pay, leave and pensions for members of Queen Alexandra's Royal Naval Nursing Service have recently been authorised by an Order in Council as under:—

Head Sisters.—Pay £170 per year, rising by annual increments of £10 to £200.

Superintending Sisters.—£95 per year, rising by £5 to £135.

Nursing Sisters.—£60 per year, rising by £5 to £85 per year.

These rates, inclusive of bonus, take effect from April 1st ult., unless Sisters, serving at the date of the issue of the Order, elect to draw the old rate of pay, with bonus, to that date.

Leave of absence, with pay, will now be granted at the following rates:—

Head Sisters.—Seven weeks a year.

Superintending Sisters.—Six weeks a year.

Nursing Sisters.—Five weeks for the first three years and six weeks thereafter.

Retired pay is based both on service and rank. The maximum rates of retired pay in both these parts will be: Head Sister, £160; Superintending Sister, £105; Nursing Sister, £75. Sisters retiring with less than ten completed years' service will receive a gratuity equivalent to one month's pay in respect of each year of service.

Queen Alexandra's Imperial Military Nursing Service is now gradually resuming its normal proportions. At one time there were employed in connection with the Service and its Reserve over 13,000 trained nurses. Now they number under 1,000.

All members of the Territorial Force Nursing Service are now required to "sign on" for

service Overseas as well as at home. We imagine this will be a most popular order, and we learn that already 3,000 nurses have signed under the new conditions.

The question of careers for both sons and daughters is one of anxious concern to parents, and, in the view of those who should know, most professions are overcrowded, and offer a doubtful prospect of affording a means of self-support.

We may therefore point out that the profession of nursing is by no means overcrowded, and with the establishment of a definite standard of nursing education, and of State Registration of Nurses in the three kingdoms, the prestige of nurses who are members of this legally constituted profession will be much enhanced. In spite of the disadvantages in the past, nursing has always had attractions for women with the protective instinct, and has afforded a useful and happy career to thousands of girls, to the great advantage of the sick, as well as of themselves. At the present day many fresh avenues of work are opening to nurses, and parents, guardians and teachers will do well to bring the claims of nursing as an attractive, satisfying, and increasingly remunerative profession before girls on leaving school, as well as during their school life.

A very attractive opportunity to obtain free training in massage, which many nurses desire, but do not feel they can afford, is offered by the Lambeth Guardians to a limited number of well educated, fully trained nurses.

The course lasts for 15 months, and affords full training in preparation for the Massage Examination of the Chartered Society of Massage and Medical Gymnastics. No salary will be paid, but board and lodging, washing and uniform will be provided in return for a working week of 46 hours, which will include the time occupied by lectures. Fully trained nurses desiring to take advantage of this offer should apply for full particulars to the Matron, Lambeth Infirmary, Brook Street, Kennington, S.E.11. The opportunity is one which enterprising nurses should not lightly miss.

At the monthly meeting of the Brentford Board of Guardians, new regulations for the probationer nurses were submitted for approval.

Mr. Noble, a Labour member, objected to a provision giving the hospital committee power

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