

NURSING ECHOES.

A much sought-after position in the nursing world is that of Lady Superintendent of the Rotunda Hospital, Dublin, a hospital which, founded in 1745, has achieved a world-wide reputation, and is pre-eminent as a training school for midwives, and maternity and gynaecological nurses. Applications should be sent immediately to the Master, at the hospital.

The authorities of St. Bartholomew's Hospital have decided that in future probationary nurses during their four years' contract of training shall receive £20, £25, £30, and £40 for each year respectively. This scale is also in force at certain other of the large training schools.

The Royal Infirmary, Bradford, offers valuable experience to certificated nurses in its Venereal Disease Department in a six months' course. Lectures are given and a certificate awarded; the salary is £55, and uniform is provided. St. Thomas's Hospital, London, has a well organised Venereal Department, but opportunities for nurses to get practical experience in this important branch of their work, as well as theoretical instruction, are comparatively few, and we commend the course to the attention of certificated nurses.

The same up-to-date hospital has a School of Massage and Medical Electricity, thus giving opportunity for obtaining another much sought-after and valuable qualification. Application for particulars in both instances should be made to the Matron, Royal Infirmary, Bradford.

The mental instability resulting from the war received tragic illustration at the Ministry of Pensions Hospital, Hollymore, near Birmingham, and incidentally the risks to which nurses are exposed in dealing with mentally unstable patients of this class. On Saturday last the wounds of a patient—a man who had been injured in the head, as well as having lost an arm in the war—had been dressed by the doctor on duty, and the patient left the dressing room, but subsequently returned and fired at the Sister, Miss Annie Bloor, who was then alone. The doctor, who heard the shot,

rushed to the room to find the Sister with a bullet wound in her cheek, and the man dead on the floor, as after firing at the Sister he had turned his revolver upon himself. Near by was a revolver containing three live cartridges. We are glad to learn that the Sister's condition after this terrifying experience is not considered dangerous. We sincerely hope that she will soon have recovered completely.

Lord Sackville, President of the Holmesdale Cottage Hospital, Sevenoaks, held an inquiry on Monday last following on the rider of the jury at an inquest on Mrs. Quinnell—a Sevenoaks woman who died in the Tonbridge Hospital—that she should have been seen at the Isolation Hospital, Sevenoaks. The unfortunate woman, whose clothing caught fire, ran to the Cottage Hospital, where she arrived with all her clothing burnt, to find the hospital closed for repairs. She was taken to the Isolation Hospital, which is being used temporarily, only to be refused admission, on the ground that the hospital was not ready. Neither Matron nor nurse saw the patient. At the above meeting the Matron tendered her resignation by letter, saying that in view of her recent error of judgment and her inability to deal with the emergency which arose, she could not expect to retain the confidence of the committee. Consideration of the resignation was postponed as the committee recognised their own share of responsibility.

Had the Matron not made the initial error of neglecting to see the patient, she must have realised that a roof over her head, and such attention as trained nurses could give until she died were the urgent needs of the patient, she would not then, presumably, have sent her on a seven-mile journey to the Tonbridge Hospital.

A memorial tablet has been placed in the village church at Steeple Bumpstead, near Halstead, Essex, in honour of Miss Edith Cavell, who was at one time governess to the family of a former Vicar of Bumpstead. The tablet is fixed near the place where she was accustomed to sit.

The committee of the Royal Infirmary, Liverpool, in their annual report for 1920, anticipate that this year will see a start, at all events, made in the building of the new home for nurses, which has been delayed from one cause or another until its erection has now become imperative.

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