

NURSING ECHOES.

The 140 members of the staff and students at the London Hospital who lost their lives in the war are to be commemorated in an interesting manner.

On the occasion of the recent bazaar in the hospital grounds, the Prince of Wales sent as a gift a replica of the Whitehall Cenotaph. The nurses purchased the gift, and it has been decided to erect it in the Central Hall of the hospital in memory of former colleagues.

The Cup Tie between Queen Mary's and the North Western Hospitals will be played off on the 26th September, at Queen's Club, West Kensington, at 2 p.m., weather permitting.

The players are requested to be there at 1.45 p.m.

The nearest railway station is Baron's Court, which is quite close to the ground.

The hospitals are invited to send as many of their staff as they can spare.

Arrangements have been made with Messrs. Lyons & Co. to supply tea at their usual prices. A room will be reserved for nurses and their friends at Cadby Hall, Hammersmith, also quite close to the ground.

The Government has decided to extend to Australian nurses who served in the war under the Queen Alexandra nursing scheme the same treatment in the payment of war gratuity as to nurses who served with the A.I.F. There were 126 nurses who left Australia under the Queen Alexandra scheme, while nearly 1,000 nurses served with the A.I.F. The Queen Alexandra nurses had volunteered for service with the A.I.F., but had not participated in the benefits and privileges received by the other nurses. It is now proposed to put all the nurses on the same footing. If a Queen Alexandra nurse has received a gratuity from the Imperial Government she will be paid the difference between that and the A.I.F. nurse's gratuity in a gratuity bond.

One duty delegated to the General Nursing Councils in the Nursing Acts, in which the nurses appear most vitally interested, is the question of a Badge and protected uniform; and indeed this is very natural when one realises how first their bonnet and cloak and now their cap and veil are flaunted by all and sundry, often with most grotesque accessories, and it is not only at home, but further afield that the need of protection is most urgent.

A correspondence on this question is now proceeding in the *South African Nursing Record*, and Miss T. Adlam, matron of the hospital at Salisbury, S.A., writes on the Use and Abuse of Uniform as follows:—

I noted with pleasure in the last number of the *S.A. Nursing Record* that a suggestion was brought forward for a change in the indoor uniform of nurses. It was suggested that a well-made coat frock, with collar and cuffs of the same material, should be worn out of the wards at meals, &c., this to be covered entirely with an overall, which should be left in the ward when going to meals. This change was in favour because it would make collars, belts, cuffs and aprons unnecessary, and therefore save expense. This, to my mind, is less important than the fact that the proposed change will make for cleanliness and decency. I think that nurses in years to come will wonder at our dirty habits in sitting down to meals after tending patients suffering from all kinds of more or less infectious diseases, in the same clothing we have been wearing in the wards. A painter or plasterer is handling cleaner and more healthy material than a nurse, yet he leaves his overalls behind when he sits down to meals.

The medical editor of the *S.A. Nursing Record* writes in the same issue:—

We should like to call attention to a very important change in the regulations of the Cape Medical Council regarding the condonation of breaks of training as a probationer. The Council has decided, quite justly and fairly, we think, that if a probationer breaks her training for any cause whatever, she may resume later on condition that she completes her three years plus a period equal to half the break. The new regulation will be found in the report of the Cape Medical Council printed in this issue.

We cannot agree with this provision. "Any cause whatever" is a tall order, and in our opinion gives much too wide license to a probationer to inconvenience the training school. There are special circumstances in which a probationer might be permitted to discontinue her training for a time, such as sickness and family duty, but that she may upon her own initiative break her contract with the hospital would certainly not have been conceded if trained nurses themselves had seats as they should have, for the consideration of Nursing affairs on the Cape Medical Council.

A course of free lectures and discussions on problems of public health in relation to industrial hygiene will take place in the coming autumn and winter at the lecture theatre of the Royal Institute of Public Health, 37, Russell Square,

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