

NURSING ECHOES.

From the partisan reports issued by certain journals represented at the meeting of the General Nursing Council on October 28th, and the suppression of the arguments against the resolution proposed by Miss Cox-Davies to omit from the published Register the record of the nurses' Certificates, no doubt it is hoped to keep the profession generally in the dark on this matter of vital professional importance to every thoroughly trained and certificated nurse. Let Nurses therefore take note.

The principle at issue is—Shall nurses holding Certificates of three years' training and upwards be degraded in the published Register for all time to an uncertificated class?

Many Training Schools have awarded Certificates of proficiency to their nurses after examination for upwards of thirty years. There are thousands of women whose professional status is thus at stake, and we have no doubt they will take means to protect their own interests. This professional Journal will be at their disposal for the purpose.

The historic Lord Mayor's Show, loved of Londoners, taking place as we go to press, has a special interest for nurses this year, as London's new Lady Mayoress is a certificated Bart.'s nurse. It is suitable, therefore, that St. Bartholomew's Hospital should take part in the Show, and it is, we learn, providing two tableaux, one car showing Henry VIII presenting the Charter of the Hospital to the Lord Mayor of London in 1546, and another showing a nurse opening the door of a hospital ward, with the appeal: "Help to keep this door open."

Among the cars illustrating London charities will be a St. Dunstan's car, containing blinded soldiers engaged in mat and basket making.

The Concert being organised by Mrs. W. B. Paterson, in the Great Hall, St. Bartholomew's Hospital, in aid of the Rebuilding Fund of Queen Mary's Nurses' Home, on November 17th, promises to be thoroughly delightful, and is under a wonderful list of patrons.

The following artists have kindly given their services:—Madame Nikitina (soprano from the Grand Opera of Petrograd), Maharani of Tikari (recitation), Mr. Gordon Cleather (baritone), Mr. Mark Hambourg (piano), Mr. Felix Salmond ('cello), the Russian Vocal Quartette (Messrs. Strelsky, Vydra, Aloff and Donskoy). At the piano, Mr. O'Connor Morris. Tickets, one guinea, 10s. 6d., and 6s., from Mrs. W. B.

Paterson, c/o The Matron, St. Bartholomew's Hospital, Smithfield, E.C., and Mr. Alfred Hays, 26, Old Bond Street, W.

The opening of the Nurses' Recreation Room at the Beckett Hospital, Barnsley, on a recent date, was an occasion of all-round rejoicing for the hospital. Lady Sutherland performed the ceremony, and was presented with a charming bouquet upon her arrival by Sister Newhouse, and a key from Mr. Whitman, Chairman of the Management Committee, with which she opened the door of the room. The furnishing of the room, the dimensions of which are 50 by 25 feet, is very tasteful, and gives it an inviting air of comfort, and is after the style of the Manchester Royal Infirmary. The whole scheme has been under the direction of the Matron and the House Committee, and the room was beautifully beflowered on the opening day. Mr. Whitman spoke of the good work of the nurses during the war, and the need for helping the social side of their lives. Lady Sutherland, in expressing thanks for her cordial reception, said "healthy recreation leads to healthy minds; it benefits all people, and enables those who work to do their work better. It is no good having shorter hours if the leisure time is not profitably employed."

A sign of the times is the announcement by the Asylums and Mental Deficiency Committee of the London County Council that a female charge-nurse has been granted two years' leave of absence, without pay, for general hospital training. It is a wise move, and, we hope, indicates the considered policy of the Council. It also demonstrates that mental nurses are becoming alert to the desirability of obtaining general training.

The following item in a Report of its Education Committee to the L.C.C. is also of interest:—"We have received from the General Purposes Committee for consideration and report to the Council, under Standing Order No. 192, a copy of the final report of the Committee appointed by the Minister of Health on voluntary hospitals. There is a reference in the report of the Committee to the training of nurses in hospitals, and the Committee have recommended that the question of making grants from technical education funds for the training of nurses should be considered. This appears to be a matter on which the Board of Education should frame regulations, if considered desirable. For the information of the Council, it may be stated that classes in cookery for

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