

IRISH NURSES' MEMORIAL.

On Sunday, November 6th, a Memorial Tablet to the Irish Nurses who gave their lives in the Great War was unveiled in the Garrison Church, Dublin, by General Sir C. F. N. Macready, Commander-in-Chief of the Forces in Ireland, in the presence of a distinguished congregation, including members of the nursing staffs of nearly every hospital in Dublin and its environs. We hope to give an account of the ceremony in our next issue.

SCOTTISH NURSES' CLUB.

Under the auspices of the Health Visitors' Association and the Scottish Nurses' Club, Dr. W. Herbert Brown will give a lecture on Skin Diseases at the Club, 205, Bath Street, Glasgow, on Tuesday, November 29th, at 7.30 p.m.

A meeting of the Health Visitors' Association was held at the Club on October 29th, when the President, Lady Leslie Mackenzie, was in the chair, and Dr. Garden Blaikie, of Edinburgh, gave a most deeply interesting and instructive lecture on "Pathological Discoveries in Relation to Sexual Crimes." It is a subject upon which nurses should take pains to be well informed.

OUR PRIZE COMPETITION.

We regret we are unable to award a prize this week, no paper of sufficient merit having been received.

We are exceedingly sorry that this should be the case, we should have thought that if there was a question a nurse should be conversant with, and be able to write about, it would be this one of blood transfusion, as at any time she may be required to get the patient ready, and prepare for the surgeon in an emergency case.

COMING EVENTS.

November 11th.—"Remembrance Day." Earl Haig's Appeal for Ex-Service Men of all ranks.

November 12th.—Royal British Nurses' Association. Lecture by Sir Frank Dyson, the Astronomer Royal. 3 p.m.

November 17th.—Central Midwives Board. Monthly Meeting, Queen Anne's Gate Buildings, Westminster, S.W. 1.

November 17th.—Leicester Royal Infirmary Nurses' League. Autumn Meeting. Miss Margaret Breay will speak on "The Importance of Trained Nurses Being Registered." Leicester Royal Infirmary. Chair: Miss Vincent, R.R.C. 3.15 p.m.

November 17th.—St. Bartholomew's Hospital: Concert in aid of the Rebuilding Fund of Queen Mary's Home for Nurses, Great Hall, St. Bartholomew's Hospital. 8.30 p.m.

November 18th.—Monthly Meeting, General Nursing Council for England and Wales, Ministry of Health, Whitehall, S.W. 2.30 p.m.

November 22nd.—Her Royal Highness Princess Mary visits Brighton, to open the new Nurses' Home, at the Royal Sussex County Hospital.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR.

Whilst cordially inviting communications upon all subjects for these columns, we wish it to be distinctly understood that we do not in ANY WAY hold ourselves responsible for the opinions expressed by our correspondents.

NOT A MISSTATEMENT UPON OUR PART. To the Editor of THE BRITISH JOURNAL OF NURSING.

DEAR MADAM,—Will you kindly correct a misstatement in your report of the meeting of the General Nursing Council for England and Wales, held on Friday, October 28th last, with reference to the Nightingale Certificates?

The following is the true statement:—The first of the Gratuity Certificate Papers granted by the Nightingale Training School was issued in November, 1877. This system continued till August, 1904, when the single Certificate was granted, not 1893, as you state in your issue.

Yours faithfully,

A. LLOYD STILL,

Matron and Superintendent of the Nightingale Training School, St. Thomas's Hospital.

St. Thomas's Hospital, S.E.1.

November 5th, 1921.

[The form of the Gratuity Papers granted by the Nightingale Training School is well known, and in no instance are they inscribed as "Certificates." They are letters, signed by the Secretary of the Nightingale Fund, to the probationer as follows:—

To Nurse —

I have the pleasure to inform you that the Committee of the "Nightingale Fund," having received a satisfactory report of the manner in which your duties have been performed during the year ending December 25th, have awarded you, in accordance with the Regulations, a first gratuity of two pounds.

A second and third letter were sent annually to the nurse, with the same gratuity, at the end of the second and third year's service.

This personal letter is in recognition of good conduct, but is not a Certificate of Training, and of professional proficiency, and it is much to be regretted that no such Certificate was given to the successful pupils of the Nightingale Training School until 1904, that is, upwards of forty years after the School was founded.

The date 1893, as recorded by our representative in our report of the meeting of the General Nursing Council on October 28th, as mentioned at that meeting by Miss Lloyd Still (no doubt inadvertently) is corroborated by the report of the meeting which appears in another paper.

It is, of course, well understood in the Nursing world that it is through no fault of their own that nurses trained during this period at St. Thomas' Hospital cannot produce a Certificate of Training. The responsibility rests with the authorities of the Nightingale Training School for Nurses, which, until the year 1904 did not provide them with this documentary evidence of their proficiency.

Is it too late, in justice to these nurses, for this omission to be rectified, and for the Committee to

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