

## NURSING ECHOES.

Mr. Harold Newcomb Hillebrand, Department of English, University of Illinois, has just been declared the winner of the \$500.00 prize that was offered by the Central Council for Nursing Education of Chicago, for the best play of three or four acts written by an American author, and based on the life or incidents in the life of Florence Nightingale. The offer of the Chicago Council, of which Miss Martha Wilson is the chairman, was sent throughout the country on the occasion of the one hundredth anniversary, on May 12th, of the birth of Florence Nightingale, and resulted in the receipt of hundreds of manuscripts. Among the plays submitted to the New York office of the Nightingale Centennial Committee, National Organisation for Public Health Nursing, who took charge of the competition, only two showed the required dramatic conception of the life of Miss Nightingale, one signed with the pen name of "Illinois," the other under the *nom-de-plume* of "Ernest Brook." For many weeks the decision of the committee of judges, consisting of Mrs. Minnie Maddern Fiske, the well-known actress; Miss Marylka Mojeska, now Mrs. Pattison; Miss Alice Beer, and Miss Lillian Wald, wavered between the two plays, the final award, however, being by a majority of votes given to "Illinois," the pen name chosen by the Illinois man, H. N. Hillebrand. Mrs. Harry Fielding Reid, 608, Cathedral Street, Baltimore, Md., the writer of the "Ernest Brook" play, has been given honourable mention.

It is hoped by the Central Council for Nursing Education that the prize play may be put into shape to be produced in Chicago during the coming winter.

The Central Council for Nursing Education, which gave the prize for the play, was organised early in 1920, through the interest and activity of the lay boards of several Chicago hospitals, each of which maintains a training school with high educational standards. Its object is to spread information regarding the nursing profession, and it stands ready to guide young women in the proper selection of a school for training and to give them any information possible. It endorses only the schools which give the highest training.

The Council, knowing the crying need for nurses all over the country at the present day, is making its endeavour to acquaint young high-school girls and college women with the actual work and scope of nursing, and the splendid practical training courses that may be had free of tuition fees.

The Imperial Nurses' Club, 137, Ebury Street, S.W. 1, is holding its "Birthday Week" from Tuesday, November 29th, to Sunday, December 4th, inclusive. This year the Regulation that three members of the Committee shall be nominated and elected from among the members of the Club by the members themselves comes into force, and the elections will take place at the Annual Meeting on November 29th, at 3.30 p.m.

The Club has been used to almost its utmost capacity throughout the year, as may be gathered from the fact that 7,647 beds have been made up and 10,217 meals served.

During Birthday Week there will be music and songs most afternoons, and a charming exhibition of Classical Dancing by Miss Hetherington on Saturday afternoon, December 3rd. On Sunday afternoon Mrs. Buckingham, a special friend of the Club, will sing, and Mrs. Horace Porter will speak on "The Forces of Healing."

If any members or their friends wish to make the occasion one for Birthday presents, we understand that money would be the most acceptable as the cost of the great improvements made last autumn has not yet been completely defrayed.

No doubt the Paddington Infirmary, Harrow Road, W., will be *en fête* on Monday, December 5th, when the new Nurses' Home and the Operating Theatre will be opened by the Right Hon. the Earl of Onslow, Parliamentary Secretary to the Ministry of Health, at 2.30 p.m. The Board of Guardians are issuing invitations for the ceremony. R.S.V.P. to the Matron.

As we go to press the adjourned Conference of representatives of Poor Law Nurse Training Schools is being held in the Council Chamber of the Offices of the Metropolitan Asylums Board, Victoria Embankment, E.C.

The Agenda of Business is as follows, and should prove of interest:—

(1) Minutes of last Meeting.

(2) Report of Deputation appointed at last Conference to interview the General Nursing Council.

(3) Letter from Registrar of General Nursing Council: date of first compulsory examination.

(4) Standardisation of salaries of probationer nurses in poor law and voluntary hospitals.

(5) Questions of hours of duty of hospital nurses (to be introduced by a representative of the Hunslet Board of Guardians).

[previous page](#)

[next page](#)