

prolonged treatment in the air of the country, and the Thingwall Branch where cases requiring further treatment than is possible in the City Branch are sent, though such cases are not in their nature necessarily analogous to those for which the Heswall Branch is equipped. The Heswall Branch is thus not one to which convalescents are sent from the City Branch, but admits patients directly. Convalescents are usually sent to various homes.

POUND DAYS.

With a view to relieving a little the great financial strain on the Royal Hospital, Sheffield, Miss Earle, the Matron, has arranged to hold a Pound Day. On the next three Tuesdays, December 6th, 13th and 20th, she and her Sisters will be pleased to receive Pound Parcels of Tea, Sugar, Butter, Currants, Raisins, Soap, &c. Pounds of Money will receive a very special welcome. One of the closed wards will be used for the purpose, from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. each day. It is hoped three very busy days will be experienced.

SALES.

The nursing staff of King's College Hospital have raised £250 by a sale to provide extra comforts for patients at Christmas.

The Jumble Sale recently held in connection with Sheffield's Voluntary Hospitals realized as net proceeds the sum of £93. This sum will be divided between the four hospitals concerned; to form a nucleus of the forthcoming Bazaar. The Sale only lasted two hours. Will all donors and helpers accept the sincere thanks of each hospital Matron?

THE IMPERIAL NURSES CLUB.

The "Birthday Week" at the Imperial Nurses' Club, 137, Ebury Street, S.W., was inaugurated on Tuesday last, when the Annual Meeting was held. We hope to give some account of the festivities in our Special Christmas Number next week.

COMING EVENTS.

December 3rd.—London Temperance Hospital Nurses' League. Sale of Work in aid of bed in Mission Hospital in Persia. Out-Patient Department, L.T.H., Hampstead Road, N.W. 3 p.m.

December 5th.—The Paddington Infirmary, Harrow-road: Opening New Nurses' Home and Operating Theatre by the Right Hon. the Earl of Onslow. 2.30 p.m.

December 9th.—Trained Nurses' Annuity Fund. Sale of Work to be opened by Her Royal Highness, Princess Christian. Royal British Nurses' Association Club, 194, Queen's Gate, S.W. 12 noon.

December 10th.—League of St. Bartholomew's Hospital Nurses. General Meeting, Clinical Theatre, St. Bartholomew's Hospital. 3 p.m. Social Gathering, Staff Nurses' Sitting Room. Music and Tea.

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.

KERNELS FROM CORRESPONDENCE.

Trained Poor Law Guardian.—"When the General Nursing Council comes to consider the voluminous report of the proceedings of the Conference of Poor Law Guardians, held last week in London, it is to be sincerely hoped it will remember that quite a number of new probationers have this summer entered for training at the leading infirmaries on the distinct understanding that they will be prepared and ready to go up for the State Examination in 1924. If the Poor Law Guardians of small infirmaries, which ought never to be inclusive training schools for nurses, who are agitating to put off the State Examination into the dim and distant future, are to prevail then where do the 1921 probationers come in? Are they to be disappointed of their aim and be disqualified to become 'Registered Nurses by State Examination'? How unfair this would be. I hope the leading Poor Law Infirmary Training Schools who have admitted probationers on the above terms will stand in firmly with the General Nursing Council and see justice done in this particular."

[The Minister of Health has signed the Rule providing for the first State Examination to be held in 1924, and as no objection was taken to this Rule during the twenty-one sitting days—when the Rules were laid before Parliament as required by 3 (4) of the Act—it is not at all probable that the Council will fail to keep faith with the 1921 probationers who have entered Nurse Training Schools under the Rule as sanctioned by Parliament.—ED.]

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

We are of opinion that correspondents should have the courage to sign their letters on a question so serious as that of recording Certificates of Proficiency in the State Register. They carry much more weight.

PRIZE COMPETITION QUESTIONS.

December 10th.—What are the earliest symptoms of (a) scarlet fever, (b) measles, (c) typhoid fever, (d) small-pox, (e) whooping cough; and how soon after exposure to infection would you expect the symptoms in each case to appear.

December 17th.—What are the duties of a Sister Tutor, and how best can she be trained to perform them?

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