

## NURSING ECHOES.

The King and Queen were immensely gratified by their reception in Ulster when they opened the Northern Parliament at Belfast, and upon their return to London. At the entrance to Middlesex Hospital the procession from the station halted while the Matron, Miss Montgomery, surrounded by Nurses, presented a bouquet of carnations to the Queen.

Miss M. A. Willcox, Sister-Matron of King's College Hospital, Denmark Hill, S.E. 5, and the Nursing Staff are, for the fourth year, organizing a Garden Fête, and Sale of Work. This year it is to be continued for two days, Wednesday, July 13th, and Thursday, July 14th, and the Nurses hope thereby to make a substantial sum of money for the Hospital which has had to close 160 beds on account of financial difficulties. This, the Sister-Matron writes, with over 800 patients on the waiting list is indeed a tragedy. The Fête will be opened on July 13th at 2.30 p.m. by Dame Margaret Lloyd-George; and on July 14th, at 3 p.m., by the Mayoress of Camberwell. Tickets of admission—Wednesday 2s. 6d., Thursday 1s.—may be obtained from the Sister-Matron, the Appeal Secretary, and at the Porter's Lodge inside the Hospital. The Hospital will be open to inspection, there will be an exhibition and demonstration in the pathological department, and in the X-ray department, and also a Continuous Variety Entertainment and a number of Side Shows.

The London Temperance Hospital is to be highly commended for inaugurating Post-Graduate teaching for Nurses. We all know how desirable it is to keep up with new scientific methods of nursing, and how important it is that nurses who have left their training schools for some time should have the opportunity of practical teaching in the same.

At the Temperance Hospital, a Post-Graduate Course in Surgical Nursing, including the management of the operating theatre and the participation in emergency operations, is open to fully trained nurses. Post-Graduate Courses in Medical Nursing, Out-patient and Casualty Work can also be arranged.

For information as to fees, &c., application should be made to the Matron, London Temperance Hospital, Hampstead Road, N.W. 1.

The magnificent ball held at Lansdowne House on June 22nd, was a great success—

1,300 tickets at £3 3s. were sold. The Prince of Wales and other royalties were present, and we learn that Queen Victoria's Jubilee Institute for Nurses, in aid of which the function took place, will benefit by some £3,000. The Institute needs greatly increased support if it is to continue its work of national importance.

Approximately 2,500 people paid for admission to the Garden Fête at "Bredbury," in aid of the Tunbridge Wells and District Nursing Association, realising £189. The total amount taken during the day was £853, but it is hoped that with donations that have been received for the expenses, a very handsome cheque will be handed over to the Nursing Association.

Dame Becher, R.R.C., has started a United Services Club for Nurses in Cavendish Square, the V.A.D.'s have another at 28, Cavendish Square, and the College of Nursing, Ltd., is to have part use of No. 20 in the same Square. Why another? All these institutions have been subsidised from Red Cross or other war funds—but the upkeep will tax the purses of a poorly paid profession like nursing; and it is not wise to overdo it in a rush.

At the thirty-fourth annual meeting of the Royal National Pension Fund for Nurses, held on June 23rd at the Royal Society of Arts, John Street, Adelphi, Sir Thomas Dewey, deputy chairman, said that the Fund was started to assist nurses to obtain an assured income for life on reaching a certain age, but to a certain extent they had failed. Many nurses joined, but did not continue their premiums. At present they were only paying 2,891 annuities, whereas the number should be at least 10,000.

The obvious inference is that nurses joined the Fund when in hospital, owing to the strong influences brought to bear upon them to do so, and then many resigned when free to act on their own account. The payment of the requisite premiums out of the very small salaries earned by nurses required great self-denial, and the foregoing of legitimate pleasures, and even necessities, in their working years, for which, in the view of many nurses, the "pension" of £26 a year eventually received did not compensate. "Just enough to keep me out of a nice, warm workhouse," said one nurse we know.

Of the profits of the Scenic Fair held at Birmingham, when upwards of £20,000 was taken, 80 per cent. will be retained for the Local

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