

NURSING ECHOES.

Miss Cox-Davies, who is now making good progress towards recovery, wishes to thank her many friends in the nursing world for all their kind messages of sympathy and inquiry, and for the gifts of flowers and fruit which they have so kindly sent her.

She has so very much appreciated their thoughts of her, which have greatly helped and cheered her throughout her illness.

At the annual meeting of the Southmolton Nursing Association the Mayoress, Mrs. W. Mountjoy, Hon. Secretary, in presenting her report, said that during the last ten months Nurse Werren attended 25 midwifery, 17 maternity, 23 surgical, and 29 medical cases, and was present at five operations. She had been on duty 21 nights, and paid 3,246 visits. Her work was much appreciated, and the Committee were fortunate in being able to retain her services. During the year her salary had been raised by £12, bringing it up to £116 per annum, a sum still below that being paid to nurses in similar districts.

Dr. Mortimer said he felt rather at a disadvantage in occupying the chair, because for some years he had not subscribed. There were two reasons why he had not done so. First, he felt that the ordinary subscription of 6d. a year for the services of the nurse was far too low; if people would not help themselves more than that he did not think they ought to be helped at all. At the time he discontinued his subscription some who availed themselves of the nurse's services were well able to pay for a nurse, but did not do so. However, these objections were now disappearing, and he would be happy to subscribe again in future. If the nurse paid three thousand visits a year, surely she should be self-supporting, or nearly so. Big wages were being paid to-day. One shilling a year was a small fee to ask for her services. There was no more trying work than a nurse's. Nurse Werren was using the best years of her life at Southmolton, but it was impossible for her to save much.

Dr. J. H. Sanders (China) supported Dr. Mortimer's views, and expressed the opinion that those who benefited from the nurse's work should be called upon to pay higher fees; and the Vicar, the Rev. S. P. Scott, said that each year he had called attention to the nurse's salary, which had been slowly raised. She had

given first-rate services, and they ought to think about her future.

£2,000 has been bequeathed by Mr. George Henry Simmonds, of Murdoch Road, Woking, to his nurse, Miss Elizabeth Wilkinson, "for her devoted and faithful service for many years."

The graduation of the first class of Nurses from the Army School of Nursing, U.S.A., was the occasion of great rejoicing, and Major Julia C. Stimson, Superintendent of the Army Nurse Corps, and Dean of the Army School of Nursing, paid the following tribute to Miss Annie Goodrich, the inspiration of the movement, at the Commencement Exercises at Washington, D.C. :—

It isn't often that anyone has the good fortune to bring together in an official, public way and under such happy auspices as these, the dreamer and the dream—the prophet and the fulfilment of the prophecy, but that is my good fortune to-day.

Three years ago in the confusion of needs and the many suggestions that were made to meet these needs one woman had a vision of this school. Her vision was a plan to meet the insistent call for help in the nursing service of the Army, and at the same time to prepare young women who were eager to respond to their country's call, for a career after the war was over. The plan was stupendous because the very idea of a school for nurses in the Army was an absolutely new one, and was beset with almost insuperable obstacles. Other schemes had been suggested for meeting the great shortage of nurses in our Army hospitals, but what advantage would the young women, who might perhaps have met this need at the time, have received beyond the satisfaction of service, had there not been a definitely-worked-out course of study for them, which was planned to make them able to take their place in the nursing profession after the need for their services in the Army had passed? The plan, however, went further than to do these two things—to meet the need and to give a nursing education—and had another object, to give a nursing education that could be surpassed by none offered in this country or any other. It was an overwhelming, far-sighted, impossible proposition. No one could have "put it over" but this one woman, who since her own nurse student days has stood primarily for the development of standards in training schools for nurses, and who has insisted upon high character and sound educational background as a basis for nurse training. As Superintendent of various training schools for nurses, as State Inspector of nurses' training schools under the New York State Education Department, as Assistant Professor in the Department of Nursing and Health,

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