

### NURSING ECHOES.

Professor D. Hepburn (Dean of the Faculty of Medicine of the University of Wales) has announced that the University of Wales is now considering a scheme by which a diploma in Nursing could be obtained by members of the Profession on similar lines to that recently started by the Leeds University.

This is good news.

Before us are long articles from the leading provincial papers deploring the shortage of nurses, which prove the gravity of the position if an efficient standard of nursing is to be maintained. Most of these articles are written by College folk, and see but one point of view—that of hospital managers and matrons—and all ignore one of the most significant facts which apparently influences women from choosing nursing as a profession. It is the hospital "School Marm," whose circumscribed social evolution prevents her from extending to probationers that sympathy which springs from knowledgeable understanding of the inner woman. These "School Marms" may be Matrons, Sister-Tutors, Sisters, cramped into the prescribed mould during training, and who carry on the tradition that grown women are still children because the elements of nursing are unknown to them.

The questions we should address to applicants, were we a member of a Hospital Board, for the higher nursing posts would be:—Have you knocked about a bit? Have you travelled? Have you ever tried to fly over the moon? Are you fond of animals, including the human species? Have you any insight into the human heart? Have you a thirst after knowledge? Have you studied by midnight oil? Are you proud of your cloth? Do you believe in personal and professional responsibility? Have you courage, loyalty, love?

Any woman who can answer these questions in the affirmative will have no difficulty in procuring and keeping her fellow-women as probationers, and turning them out as real, human nurses. We want more of the human type of women in high places in our Nursing Schools. For the cold-blooded "School Marm" there is now no use.

We are asked by Miss L. S. Clark, Matron of the Whipp's Cross Hospital, Leytonstone, to state that the Whipp's Cross Nurses' Reunion will be postponed until the autumn.

The Annual General Meeting of the Fever Nurses' Association will be held on Saturday, May 27th, at the City Hospital, Leeds Road, Bradford, at 3 p.m. The Presidential Address will be given by Dr. J. T. Kitchin, Medical Superintendent of the City Hospital, Bradford. It is hoped that provincial as well as London members will make an earnest effort to attend the meeting. At its conclusion tea will be provided by the kindness of the Bradford Corporation.

At the Annual Meeting of the Governors of the Bedford County Hospital, an excellent record of the year's work was presented. To quote an item interesting to Bedford nurses:—

"Plans are before the Board for the extension of the Nurses' Home. No report would be complete without an expression of deep appreciation of the work of the nursing staff, and it was hoped that it would have been found possible to commence the long overdue work on their Home before this. Although, however, building prices have considerably dropped, the ear-marked money, less than £5,700, is insufficient. It is therefore intended to make a comprehensive appeal for the two urgent needs on capital outlay—Paying Wards and the Nurses' Home. The last word is gratitude. The public in the past have nobly supported the policy adopted by the Board. The Voluntary Hospital System is on its trial. At Bedford there is no debt, neither is there any gloom. There is, instead, an atmosphere of increased support for increased responsibility."

The Belgian Consular Service in the Dutch Indies has notified the Belgian Government that two men alleged to be responsible for the denunciation of Nurse Cavell have been traced there. It further intimates that if Belgium does not call for their extradition Great Britain will demand it, as Nurse Cavell was a British subject. It is regarded as certain that her widespread activities and the ramifications of the organisation she instituted exposed Nurse Cavell to betrayal from more than one quarter.

A bust of Nurse Cavell has been presented to King Edward VII Hospital at Windsor by Mr. A. Foreman.

At the annual meeting the Vicar of Windsor expressed the thanks of the Governors to the Matron, Miss Brooks, the Nursing Staff, and the Secretary for the excellent work carried out during the past year.

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