

NURSING ECHOES.

Please study our back Cover Page. Important.

A meeting of the executive of Queen Alexandra's Committee (Queen Victoria's Jubilee Institute for Nurses) was held on Friday, November 24th, by invitation of Lady Northcote, at 25, St. James's Place. Lady Northcote presided, and amongst those who attended was the Earl of Athlone.

It was reported that Queen Alexandra had appointed Lady Mildred FitzGerald, the Hon. Mrs. J. Seely, and Lady Warrender members of her committee.

Lord Athlone (hon. treasurer of the institute) expressed appreciation of the valuable services rendered by the committee in support of the Queen's Nurses. It was difficult, he said, to know how the work could be carried on without the financial assistance given by the members of the committee. The council were faced with a deficit of £3,000 on the accounts for this year.

The Queen's Nurses are out to do national work of the most beneficent character. We wish the public would estimate it at its true value—there would then be no deficit at all.

An interesting review of the work of the Queen Victoria Institute for Nursing the Sick Poor of Reading was furnished by the report of the Committee of Management, presented at the annual meeting, and is evidently progressive and satisfactory.

The committee are glad to be able to again record that there is still an increasing appreciation of the work of the institute by those it cares for, and that its value has been more than ever realised by the town at large. The report of the inspector sent down by the parent institute in London was again quite satisfactory. A council to arrange for the nursing by district nurses of insured members of approved insurance societies has now been constituted under a scheme approved by the Ministry of Health and the institutes represented on this council. The total number of insured members of the approved societies or their branches recently residing in the area visited by the nurses of the institute was 5,893.

The resignation of Miss Moxhay, the Superintendent, has been received with very sincere regret upon the part of the Committee, and it is recorded that it is impossible for the committee to adequately express the appreciation they feel of the services she has rendered to

the institute and the patients it cares for. She has been beloved by her nurses, and the home has always been looked upon by the inmates as a very happy one during the eleven years Miss Moxhay has been Superintendent. Miss Moxhay's work has been largely a labour of love, the salary, on which she has always refused an increase, being in no way commensurate with the work such a post entails. The committee are glad to be able to announce that they have secured the services of Miss Johnson, who has for many years been a Queen's Nurse, and has acted as Assistant Superintendent to an institute very similar to the one in Reading.

Fifteen women nurses of the Kingston Guardians' Hospital sent a letter to the Board last week protesting against remarks made by certain members as "being likely to lower the status and reputation of the institution and to prejudice the public against the staff."

Unconsidered criticism, it was added, destroyed discipline.

Mr. G. Robinson said the letter showed deplorable lack of discipline on the part of the writers.

Members of the Board found a nurse crying in the hospital, and, unless they had every right to make inquiries as to the reason, they might as well stay at home.

It was decided to return the letter to the nurses, with an expression of opinion that it ought never to have been written.

This attitude upon the part of the Guardians is altogether too high-handed. The right course would have been, together with the Matron, to interview representatives of the signatories, and acquaint themselves with the reasons which prompted the communication, and after acquainting themselves with facts to express an opinion. Why return the letter? That does not alter the fact that it was written and should receive considered attention.

The Camberwell Board of Guardians propose to increase the hours of duty of nurses at the Constance Road Institution from 48 hours a week to 56, thereby avoiding the necessity for filling five of the six vacancies in the nursing staff.

It was a gala day for the Royal Infirmary, Bradford, on November 22nd, and more especially for its nurses, for the Lord Mayor, Alderman Thomas Sowden, presided over a representative gathering, when Sir James Hill, Bart., opened the extensions of the Field House Nurses' Home at Daisy Hill, Bradford.

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