

NURSING ECHOES.

One of the most interesting Meetings organised at the R.B.N.A. Club, 194, Queen's Gate, was held on Saturday last, when Mrs. Bedford Fenwick and Miss Winifred Mayo brought before the members the tragedy of Child Assault. A full account will appear in the R.B.N.A. Supplement next week. The outcome of the discussion was a resolution that a Public Meeting should be held in the autumn to demand effective punishment of this terribly prevalent crime.

On Thursday in last week the Lady Mayoress, accompanied by the Lord Mayor, unveiled at St. Bartholomew's Hospital the tablet over the bed endowed in connection with the Jubilee celebration of the Eastern Telegraph Company to the memory of the late Lady Denison-Pender, wife of the chairman of the Company. They were received by the Treasurer, Lord Stanmore, and proceeded to Darker Ward, where the ceremony took place, and dedicatory prayers were said by Rev. J. Jessop Teague, Vicar of St. Stephen's, Coleman Street, E.C.

At a luncheon afterwards at Electra House, at which Sir John Denison-Pender presided, when the Lord Mayor and the Lady Mayoress were the guests of honour, the Lady Mayoress said that she felt sure that the patients occupying the bed would bless the name of Lady Denison-Pender. It had given her (the Lady Mayoress) particular pleasure to perform the ceremony, for she was trained at St. Bartholomew's, and spent many months in Darker Ward. The sister-in-charge at the present time, Miss Borthwick, was one of the few still on the staff who were at the hospital at the time she was there.

It may set the minds of some School Nurses at rest to know for certain that they are exempt from the Unemployment Insurance Act. Certain School Nurses in London have been informed from Public Health Departments that they are included in the Act because they are Public Health Nurses and not engaged in sick nursing. It has been pointed out to the officials of such Departments that School Nurses, though primarily engaged in preventing sickness, come into constant touch with sickness in their routine duties, and it has been agreed that, with other trained nurses and probationers, they are exempt.

The Committee of the United Service Massage League have received the following information from the Ministry of Labour:—

"In reply to your inquiry on the above subject I am directed by the Minister of Labour to inform you that under Section 10 Sub-sections (1) and (4) of the Unemployment Insurance Acts, 1922, an addition has been made to the exceptions contained in Part II of the First Schedule to the Act of 1920. The effect of this addition is that as from the 1st July, 1922, 'female professional nurses for the sick or female probationers undergoing training for employment as such nurses' cease to be insurable against unemployment."

The employment of female masseuses employed under a contract of service is deemed to fall within the terms of the exception laid down in the above paragraph.

It will be noticed that the exception (1) relates only to *female* nurses or probationers as described above, and the position of *male* nurses for the sick remains as at present; (2) does not remove the obligation to pay contributions in respect of the period *prior* to July 1st, 1922; (3) relates only to unemployment insurance. The position as regards *health* insurance under the National Health Insurance Act is not affected.

We are requested by the Ministry of Pensions to state that disabled Officers, Nurses, and Men, and the widows and dependants of those deceased, who desire to appeal to the Pensions Appeal Tribunal against the rejection of claims to pension must do so, on the prescribed form, within a year after the date of the notification by the Ministry of the rejection of the claim, or before August 19th, 1922, *whichever is the later*. Any new claim to pension in respect of disablement under any War-rant, Order in Council, or Order, administered by the Minister of Pensions, must be made within seven years after the claimant was discharged, or before September 1st, 1928, *whichever is the earlier*.

It is officially stated that serving members of Q.A.I.M.N.S. (R.) or ex-members of Q.A.I.M.N.S. (R.) with previous mobilised service, who are appointed to the Regular Q.A.I.M.N.S., and members of Q.A.I.M.N.S. (R.) with previous mobilised service who are called up for temporary duty, will not receive the initial outfit grant of £20. In such cases only the annual upkeep grant of £10 is issuable.

Our War Office never errs in excessive

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