

### PRIZES AT ST. LEONARD'S HOSPITAL, SHOREDITCH.

Mr. W. Randall, Chairman of St. Leonard's Hospital, Shoreditch, presided at the Annual distribution of Prizes at the hospital recently, when many members of the Board of Guardians were present. The prize and certificate winners were:—

Nurse Paterson Amos (gold medalist), Nurse Constance J. Pollock (silver medalist), Nurse Edith Bailey and Nurse Janet Anderson (certificates). Second-year nurses' examination: Nurse Florence Blake (1st prize), Nurse Margaret O'Flynn (2nd prize). First-year nurses' examination: Nurse Jessie McLennan and Nurse Mary Beveridge (1st prizes). For the winter session, 1921-1922: Nurse Violet N. Chessworth (1st prize), Nurses Storey and Jones (2nd prizes).

Dr. G. E. Froggatt, the Medical Superintendent, spoke very highly of the work done by the nurses, and emphasised the importance of steady, continuous application to studies during the three years' course.

We agree with the chaplain, the Rev. F. E. Birch, who spoke of the courtesy and good manners of the nurses, that these are a very important detail in the working of an institution.

Miss Inglis, the Matron, speaking to the nurses, emphasised the importance of the practical as well as the theoretical side of their work.

### THE HOSPITAL WORLD.

The Members of the General Council and Committees of King Edward's Hospital Fund, which is organising the Combined Appeal for the Hospitals of London, have given practical proof of their belief in their own cause by themselves contributing so far the sum of £16,672 13s. The Earl of Iveagh has given £5,000; Viscount Hambleden £2,500 on account of a conditional promise, of £5,000; Mr. Stuart de la Rue, £1,050; and Lord Revelstoke, Lord Marshall, Lord Bearsted, Sir Alan Anderson and Mr. Robert Fleming £1,000 each. The list also includes donations from the Bishop of London (£26 5s.), Cardinal Bourne, the Chief Rabbi and other clergy, the Presidents of the Royal Colleges of Physicians and Surgeons, and most of the medical members of the Council, and many others who already have very heavy claims on their generosity.

The French Minister of Social Hygiene, Public Charity and Social Welfare has recently sent to all prefects information concerning improvements to be made in hospitals in their districts. The circular emphasises the importance of all modern medical and surgical equipment in the hospitals with X-Ray equipment, bacteriologic and organic chemistry laboratories and similar modern departments. For rural hospitals the requirements are operating and sterilising rooms. The French Minister has requested the prefects to send him floor plans of hospitals and a list of their equipment and the special services offered.

### A PALTRY £100 A YEAR.

"I think it is a blot upon Derby public that a paltry £100 is all we can get towards the District Nursing Fund for the splendid work done," remarked Alderman Dr. Laurie, Deputy-Mayor, who presided over the fifty-seventh annual meeting of the Royal Derby and Derbyshire Nursing and Sanitary Association, held at the Queen Mary Nursing Home, Duffield Road, Derby, on July 6th.

The annual report states that—

The private nursing staff numbered 38; Nursing Institution, Nightingale and Queen Mary Nursing Homes, 16; district (borough of Derby), 5; district (outlying), 5; probationers in training, 9; number of pupils trained in midwifery and general nursing during the year, 87. During the year 58 pupils have passed the examination of the Central Midwives' Board, and 23 have completed 12 months' training in midwifery and general district work. There had been 492 calls for private nurses during the year. Of these they had been able to supply only 386. To the private wards of the Nightingale Nursing Home 330 patients had been admitted—medical 12, surgical 318; and in the maternity wards there had been 460 cases, of which 93 were private patients. A number of the public maternity patients throughout the year had been unable to pay the ordinary fees, owing to the general unemployment. In special cases the Public Health Department of the town had paid the residency fees, and no application had been refused. Since the opening of the Queen Mary Nursing Home on May 7th, 1921, there had been 87 patients admitted. During the year 62,000 visits had been paid in the Borough of Derby, and 1,920 cases attended. The nurses had sat up 114 nights, and had assisted at 42 operations. They had paid 1,192 pre-natal visits, and had attended 1,016 maternity cases. In the outlying districts of Barlborough, Bulwell, Castle Donington, Langley Mill, and Ripley, nurses had paid 15,089 visits, and attended 871 cases.

During the year 450 mothers and babies had attended the "Babies' Welcome" in connection with the institution. The Board were sorry to report a decline in the small amount received from annual subscriptions and donations. As this sum was entirely devoted to the nursing of the sick poor by the district nurses, they felt they might legitimately claim the practical sympathy of the public for this work. The Board offered their congratulations to Nurses Lily Burgoyne and Joy Thompson, who, after 20 years' service, received purses of £20; to Nurses Aiken, Bell, Dobson, Handy, Harper, and Monteith, who on completion of 41 years' service, received silver badges; and to Nurses Payne, Rushton, Skermer, Smith, Storry, and Williams who, after seven years' service, received Bibles.

Alderman Dr. Laurie, in moving the adoption of the report and financial statement, referred to the fact that the public only contributed £100 a year to the District Nursing Fund. He pointed out that the expenses were £2,949, and the balance had to come out of the nurses' earnings, whereas if the public was more generous in its support a large amount of that money would be devoted to the Nurses' Pension Fund. At present they could only afford to give a pension of 10s. per week.

We quite agree with Dr. Laurie that a "paltry £100 a year" is a very poor appreciation of the splendid service given to Derby by its district nurses.

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