

## NURSING ECHOES.

Finland is a country which just now has a great interest for nurses, more especially those belonging to societies grouped in National Councils affiliated to the International Council of Nurses, for in 1925, on the invitation of Baroness Mannerheim, President, and the National Council of Finnish Nurses, the members of the International Council of Nurses hope to meet in Helsingfors, its beautiful capital. It is with special pleasure, therefore, that, by the kind permission of the *Woman's Leader*, we print on page 106 an article on "The Woman's Movement in Finland," which appeared recently in that paper.

The Report of Queen Victoria's Jubilee Institute for Nurses for 1921 from the Council to the Patron, Queen Alexandra, shows how greatly the work of Queen's Nurses has been appreciated.

The securing of adequate support has, as ever, been a source of anxiety to the Council, relieved in part by the action of Queen Alexandra in increasing the membership of "Queen Alexandra's Committee" to two hundred and fifty, which has enabled the Committee to hand over to the Institute £2,500 instead of £2,000, for which the Council record their deep gratitude. Amongst other sources of extra revenue have been the proceeds of the Ball at Lansdowne House, organised by the Marchioness Curzon of Kedleston; a generous gift from the Committee of Queen Mary's Hostels, on their closing down, of £1,109 12s. and £3,500 Four per Cent. Funding Loan; and a Special Appeal to members of the Council and the present subscribers.

The Council, however, consider that steps must be taken to bring the expenditure and income more into accord, and with this end in view Conferences of Representatives of the affiliated Associations in England and Wales were held towards the end of the year, when the financial position was explained. The representatives were insistent that the work undertaken by the Institute should not be given up or delegated to other authorities, and the Council were most gratified at the readiness with which the affiliated Associations were prepared to give financial assistance by means of an increased affiliation fee, agreeing to a reduction in the amount paid by the Institute to the Homes for the training of candidates in district work, and to a further reduc-

tion in the grants to the County Nursing Associations.

The Council record their appreciation of the ability, tact, and sense of duty shown by their staff of Inspectors. They feel that it is largely due to their intelligence and faithful service that the position of the Queen's Nurses throughout the United Kingdom stands where it does.

The Report notes that "the General Nursing Council has drawn up the curriculum of the training to be given to future nurses in the hospitals, and it is hoped this will provide some of the instruction which now has to be given during district training. This should eventually enable the length of that training to be reduced, but this will not be until the year 1925 at the earliest."

It is further stated that "the coming year will doubtless present many difficulties, particularly in connection with the raising of money. The Council feel, however, that while every effort must be made to keep the expenditure as low as possible, it would be a disastrous policy to impair by any false economy the efficiency of the machinery that has been built up year by year. Healthy citizens are vital to the welfare of the nation, and it is not generally realised how great a debt is due to the District Nurses, who were carrying on their work in the homes of the people long before health work was undertaken by Public Authorities. The Queen's Institute has always been of opinion that the ideal scheme for dealing with health matters would be found in the combination of voluntary effort and official authority, and, if the need for national economy leads to fuller co-operation between Public Health Authorities and voluntary Nursing Associations, the result may be far from detrimental to the health of the nation."

The *League News* for 1922 of the Bradford Royal Infirmary Nurses' League, in its orange cover bearing an impression of the Badge of the League, is most admirably produced and illustrated, and full of interesting matter. Amongst other items it contains a strong article from the President, Miss J. W. Davies, pointing out to League Members the extreme importance of Registration.

Miss Davies writes:—"The chief object of our League is to uphold and forward the usefulness, honour, and efficiency of Trained Nurses, and there is no better way by which we can fulfil this aim at the present time than by each individual member having her name placed on the State Register. . . ."

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