

NURSING ECHOES.

The grand ball to be held at Lansdowne House in aid of Queen Victoria's Jubilee Institute for Nurses, on April 26th, the evening of the Royal Marriage, promises to be a very successful affair. The Marchioness Curzon of Kedleston, a lady of immense fortune, has the arrangements in hand, and it is hoped it will rival in brilliance a similar event held for the same good cause two years ago.

There will be dancing in two ballrooms, and special efforts will be made to engage the services of two of the most popular bands now in London. A special supper-room will be built out at the back of the house, in which a sit-down champagne supper will be served. As on the former occasion, decorations will be worn, a sure indication that Royalty is again expected to be present.

The Annual Meeting of the Paddington and St. Marylebone District Nursing Association held on Thursday, March 22nd, at the Home, 117, Sutherland Avenue, Maida Vale, was very successful and enjoyable. The Mayor of Paddington, Mr. H. V. Kenyon, occupied the chair, and the speakers were the Rev. Prebendary Sharpe, Vicar of St. James's, Paddington; the Rev. Alexander Butler, Congregational Church, Harrow Road; Dr. Charles Porter, Medical Officer of Health for St. Marylebone; and Dr. Reginald Duffield, Medical Officer of Health for Paddington. One and all testified to the excellent work done by the Superintendent, Miss S. M. Marsters, and the nurses. Attention was also drawn to the satisfactory balance-sheet presented. The Association was complimented on the co-operation that existed between it and the public bodies dealing with the health of the nation. The statistics show that 3,511 school children were treated at the Minor Ailment Centres, with an attendance of 47,805 for treatment. Three nurses are employed for the work.

There were 2,677 general cases attended, and 38,340 visits paid.

The total cases treated in the year were 6,188, and the visits paid 87,000. When one considers that the staff consists only of the Superintendent and twelve nurses, one realises how valuable is each unit in this little band of health workers.

The Report states that "life at the Minor Ailment Centre is both interesting and amusing, the former professionally, the latter in the

originality of the children, which affords an everlasting sense of humour. Their wit and observation are keen in all directions, as portrayed by the following incidents.

"The colour of the overalls worn by the two Nurses working there has given them the name of the 'White Nurse' and the 'Blue Nurse,' the Blue Nurse being notified as 'The Boss.' During the absence of the White Nurse on one occasion a temporary Nurse was installed, giving rise to many extraordinary questions, one of which was 'Where is the real Nurse?'"

Here is an instance of a life saved by good nursing.

"Mrs. H., a war widow, with one little girl, living with her father and mother, and going to daily work, was taken seriously ill with double pneumonia. She was too ill to be removed to a hospital and also refused to leave home. The doctor sent to the Superintendent asking her to send a Nurse twice a day to apply poultices, &c. The patient became dangerously ill and she was not expected to recover. On the Superintendent visiting the patient and seeing the condition she was in, she asked the doctor if he would agree to oxygen being administered by the Nurse when required. He quite agreed but did not know how it could be obtained, as it was expensive and the patient poor, but the Superintendent explained that in such a case of life or death the Association would supply the oxygen. It was obtained, and within half-an-hour it was administered to the patient. From that time she hourly improved and made a complete recovery. The whole family have never ceased to express their gratitude, and between them sent 30s. as a donation, which much more than paid for the oxygen."

The *Red Cross* reports that a small unit has been despatched from the V.A.D. Department, 19, Berkeley Street, to carry out work under the Near East Section of the British Red Cross Society in Greece. The party consisted of:—

Miss E. F. Fairbairn, R.R.C., formerly Acting Matron, T.A.N.S., who was trained at the London Hospital, and who served at the Dardanelles and in Egypt during the war.

Miss Florence George, trained at Sheffield Royal Hospital, and served during the war as Lady Superintendent of the Cedars Auxiliary Military Hospital, Battersea. She was a year or two ago asked by Queen Sophie of Greece to carry out six months' work with the Greek Army, and six months as head of the Welfare Centre of the Salonika Patriotic League. She speaks Greek.

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