

NURSING ECHOES.

We hear of quite a number of nurses who hope to come up from the country to see the Royal Wedding procession on April 26th. Only invited guests will have a chance of seeing the marriage ceremony in the Abbey.

Princess Mary Viscountess Lascelles has contributed £50 to the fund being raised in support of the women's scheme for restoring the Five Sisters window in York Minster as a memorial to all the women who lost their lives in the war.

It was announced at the Annual Meeting of the Leeds General Infirmary that Princess Mary's Infants Ward was proving a great success.

The nurses of the Cathedral Nursing Society, Newcastle-on-Tyne, come in contact largely with the dark side of life, but they are able to find many little gleams of humour in the tragedy of poverty and sickness in which they play their kindly part. Miss Abraham, their chief, speaking recently at the annual meeting of the Society, told of one of her patients, an old woman who lived with her daughter in one room in a particularly rough and dirty street. This room was spotlessly clean, and so much in contrast with the rest of the street that the nurse had made some remark upon it. "Oh, yes," said the old woman, "we keep werselves to werselves, and we're the only folk in this street that haven't done time."

This valuable Society—started by Bishop Lloyd forty years ago—is over £800 in debt, in spite of the reduction in the number of nurses and curtailment of expense wherever possible; so that unless some immediate and very substantial relief can be forthcoming, the Society is in great danger of collapse.

More than 2,000 visits a month are paid by seven fully trained nurses to patients of all religious denominations, in their own homes, all over the city.

Reporting on the system of nursing insane males by female nurses to the Cardiff Mental Hospitals Committee, Dr. Goodall, the medical superintendent at Whitchurch, recently said there seemed to be an idea that, if not unique, the Cardiff hospital was very exceptional in working this system. That was not the case. Even in 1920 there were 24 institutions nursing male wards by female nurses to a greater or lesser extent, and at

the present time there were over 34. The system necessitated modern buildings, and many of the asylums were very old.

The question of nurses "living out" is one which has been raised from time to time, and for the most part turned down. Now we learn that, at the Maudsley Hospital, Denmark Hill, the London County Council is making arrangements for a large number of the nurses to live out, and the experiment will be watched with interest. The adoption of an eight-hours' shift makes the plan more feasible than formerly. The system can only prove a success if the nurses realise that work comes before play.

We are glad to note Mr. J. Maitland Wilson's remarks on the duties and salaries of nurses at the West Suffolk Hospital, Bury St. Edmunds, in reply to the criticism of the President, Lord Bristol, on the rise of officials' salaries from £1,315 in 1918 to £3,300 in 1922. Mr. Maitland Wilson said, referring to the criticism from the chair, he thought that if one was more closely connected with the working of the Hospital, as some of them were, he would see the reason why, perhaps, they were doing and acting as they were. The principal work of a hospital, and which they had carried out, was always the treatment of the patients. That fact was often lost sight of, and was not always kept clearly before everybody's mind, especially in dealing with the question of £ s. d. Patients must feel that everything that possibly could be done was being done for them. (Hear, hear.) Passing on to the staff, Mr. Wilson said they could not have done their work without the help of the doctors or without the help of the Matron and nursing staff. A result of the raising of the salaries of the nursing staff was that they were now able to have a proper number of nurses, which obviated having to get temporary nurses down. He was perfectly certain that even if the cost of living did go down, the salaries of the nurses should not do so. (Hear, hear.) Because the nurses were abominably paid before the war, that was no reason why they should be abominably paid in 1922. (Hear, hear.) They had an excellent Matron and an excellent staff, who, with the help of Mr. Gough, the vice-chairman, had done a tremendous lot in looking after the expenditure in the Hospital. If it had not been for the care paid to every detail this year, their expenses would have been higher than they were at the present time.

Mr. E. L. D. Lake pointed out that a fair comparison could not be made between 1918

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