

South Africa, of which she was Matron. She entered Guy's as a probationer in 1894.

Mrs. Christine Magill (*née* Snelling) died in June, 1922, at Hawera, New Zealand. She entered Guy's as a probationer in 1910, and on completion of her training was appointed Sister, leaving in 1917 to be married.

Miss H. Denney died very suddenly on March 7th, at Ladysmith, while on a trip to South Africa, from heart failure following an attack of acute malaria. She entered as a probationer in 1904, and after holding several appointments at home and abroad, returned to Guy's as Hospital Housekeeper in 1918.

#### HON. TREASURER'S REPORT.

In the absence of Mrs. Hughes (the Hon. Treasurer), Miss Hogg presented her report, which showed a balance of £153 14s. 8d., which, however, will be absorbed in printing the *Nursing Guide*.

Miss F. A. Sheldon then took the chair, and urged all League Members to apply for Registration by the State. She wished she could think everyone had done so. She had suggested to Matron that dinner should only be provided for Registered Nurses, and that the tables for the others should be supplied with Schedules and pens and ink! The profession was now put on a legal basis and it was the duty of everyone to uphold it. We heartily concur.

Miss Sheldon then presented the prizes won in the various sections.

#### LIST OF PRIZES.

##### SECTION I.

*Class A*—Plain Needlework, Patching.—1st Prize, Nurse Masters; 2nd Prize, Nurse Thorpe.

*Class B*—Fancy Work.—1st Prize, Miss Norah Davies; 2nd Prize, Miss Grace Mannell; Highly Commended, Miss J. Hills and Nurse Buchanan.

*Class C*—Lace.—1st Prize, Nurse Knowlton; Very Highly Commended, Nurse Lyons.

Crochet.—1st Prize, Miss C. Pearse.  
Knitting.—1st Prize, Mrs. A. Hawes; Highly Commended, Miss E. Dunn.

*Class D*—Dressmaking.—1st Prize, Sister Crocker.  
Millinery.—Highly Commended, Nurse Thorpe.

*Class E*—Miscellaneous.—Highly Commended, Mrs. Burrell.

##### SECTION II.

*Class A*—Plain Needlework.—Very Highly Commended, Mrs. Eason and Sister Lazarus.

*Class C*—Crochet.—1st Prize, Mrs. Murrow; Highly Commended, Nurse Ferguson.

##### NURSES' PHOTOGRAPHIC EXHIBITION.

*Class A*—*Entire Work of Exhibitor* (who has already won an award).—1st Prize, Miss M. Phillips, "Near Land's End."

*Class B*—*Entire Work of Exhibitor*.—No award.  
*Class C*—*Not the Entire Work of Exhibitor*.—1st Prize, Miss C. Purse, "Through an Old Archway"; 2nd Prize, Miss G. M. Hockin, "Peter"; 3rd Prize, Miss B. Binning, "Quai du Rosaire"; 4th Prize, Nurse Hummerstone, "Ice Grotto."

#### Result of Ballot for Members of Council for the Ensuing Year.

*Choral*.—Sister Cornelius, Miss Cornwall, Nurse Evans (re-elected).

*Needlework*.—Sister Theatres, Miss Evershed, Nurse Buchanan (re-elected).

*Swimming*.—Sister Kathleen (re-elected), Nurse D. C. James.

*Garden*.—Sister Anne (re-elected), Nurse Tatham (re-elected).

*Tennis*.—Sister Evelyn, Miss Johnson (re-elected), Nurse D. Stubbs (re-elected).

*Library*.—Sister Margery, S. N. Page.

*Photographic*.—Sister Osborne, Nurse Bishop (re-elected).

*Debating*.—Sister Naaman, Miss Dearman (re-elected), Nurse Watkins (re-elected).

*Dramatic*.—Sister Hilda, Nurse Strain.

At the conclusion of the meeting votes of thanks were passed to the Matron, Miss Sheldon, and Miss Smith, and those present then adjourned to visit the bazaar and the needlework and photographic exhibits.

#### THE CARE OF THE DEAD.

An important duty of hospital authorities is the care of the bodies of patients who die in their institutions, and their due delivery to the relatives. There is nothing which appeals more to the friends of a deceased patient, or creates greater confidence in a hospital, than sympathetic and scrupulous care in this particular.

Within the last week two cases have been reported in the Press, in one a father whose young daughter died in a hospital, on opening the coffin sent to his house, found that it contained the body of an elderly woman; in the other, the body of a man who died in a Poor Law Infirmary was buried before the mistake was discovered, and an order for his disinterment had to be obtained from the Home Secretary.

In the first instance, the young girl and the old woman were of the same name. In the Poor Law case its officers called for a body, and, "in the absence of the mortuary attendant," removed that of the wrong man; but, presumably, if the mortuary attendant was not there someone was responsible for delivering up the body.

The avoidance of such regrettable errors is only possible by the adoption of a precise system; and it is a good plan to place the care of the mortuary in the charge of a member of the nursing staff—the Sister in Charge of the Out-patients' Department or of a responsible nurse. It should be the duty of the Ward Sister to see that a body bears the name, sex, age, and address of relatives of the dead person. The Outpatient Sister or responsible nurse should accompany the bier or shell to the ward, should take over the charge of the body, and see it so placed in the mortuary that the relatives can see it with as little shock as possible. She should be responsible also if a post-mortem examination is made for the removal of the body to the post-mortem room, and its seemly disposition subsequently. Lastly, she is responsible for handing over the body to the relatives.

If this procedure is adopted, the risk of mistakes is reduced to a minimum. We should be glad to hear from any of our readers of a routine practice which they have found satisfactory in relation to this important duty.

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