

NURSING ECHOES.

We beg to thank all our kind readers who have sent us expressions of appreciation on the termination of thirty years voluntary Editorship of THE BRITISH JOURNAL OF NURSING. The policy and principles of the Journal have been consistent and, we claim, courageous throughout the three decades. We have consistently advocated and worked for a higher standard of national health through preventive nursing, and the highest skilled nursing for the sick through curative nursing.

We have striven for the Higher Education of Nurses, the recognition and organisation of Nursing as a Profession by the State through an Act of Parliament for the State Registration of Nurses.

We have emphasised the dignity and delight of labour, and have claimed self-determination and the right to self-government.

At home the self-denial group has been limited. Promotion, honours, power have gone—as they usually do in this world—to those who tread the broad and flowery down-hill way. But contained in the sixty volumes of THE BRITISH JOURNAL OF NURSING, for which we have been responsible, is written for all time the record of one of the most strenuous and successful campaigns against ignorance and privilege, for right, justice and humanity, which a small group of noble women have fought valiantly and won.

No Registered Nurse will have done her duty until she studies the history of her profession, as contained in the Journal from its inception in 1888, and realises the debt she owes to those of her colleagues who created Nursing a Profession, and stood firm for the faith that was in them.

The following letter we prize very greatly :—
LEAGUE OF ST. BARTHOLOMEW'S HOSPITAL NURSES.

DEAR MRS. BEDFORD FENWICK,—At the Meeting of the Executive Committee of our League, held this afternoon, I was directed by the members present to send you our heartiest congratulations on your wonderful thirty years' work, as Honorary Editor of THE BRITISH JOURNAL OF NURSING.

Yours sincerely,

HELEN T. BAINES,

Hon. Sec.

September 29th, 1923.

As there was no possibility, owing to pressure of time, of holding a dedication service when the new Nurses' Home in connection with the Nottingham General Hospital, which has been erected as a city and county war memorial, was opened by the Prince of Wales

on August 1st, the ceremony was performed on September 24th by the Bishop of Southwell, who had the assistance of the Rev. C. Davis, chaplain to the hospital, and the Rev. A. Mann, president of the Nottingham Free Church Council.

The Bishop was received at the entrance to the home by Mr. W. G. Player, chairman of the Extension Committee, and members of the Monthly Board, medical staff, and the Matron, Miss Hilda Mary Kendall. After Psalm 121 had been rendered, the hymn "Jesus lives! No longer now can thy terrors Death appal us" was sung, and the lesson read by the Rev. A. Mann, and then his lordship offered up dedicatory prayer, and gave a brief address.

Of all the memorials in the city and county which had called for prayer, not one, in his opinion, he said, called for it so much as that Nurses' Home, not only because of its size, but because it was a memorial which ever lived to carry out a definite work of mercy and of healing. It was only right we should again and again commemorate the heroism of our noble sons who gave their lives for God and country, facing the agony of suffering, and death. The story, too, of the triumph of medical science and the heroism of doctors and nurses during those dark days should be told at all times, and that great memorial would ever refresh our memories. The battle against suffering was not over. It would continue until the end of the world, and it was our duty to equip ourselves so that we might best co-operate with God.

If much of healing power, concluded the Bishop, depended not only upon medicine, but upon the personality and the temperament of the doctor or nurse—and who could doubt it—then it followed that everything should be done to reinforce the vitality and character of those whom God was giving to us as His labourers. Hence the necessity of providing for nurses all that made for health, recreation, and freedom from worry.

The new Club for Nurses established at No. 166, Hagley Road, Birmingham, was opened on September 26th by Mrs. W. A. Cadbury. The acquisition and equipping of the premises were made possible by the proceeds of the Scenic Fair which was held at Bingley Hall in 1921 during the Lord Mayoralty of Mr. W. A. Cadbury, and the invitation to Mrs. Cadbury to perform the ceremony was a recognition of the very enthusiastic and valuable work undertaken by her, as Lady Mayoress, in connection with the Fair.

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