

NURSING ECHOES.

The General Meeting of the League of St. Bartholomew's Hospital Nurses will be held on Saturday, December 1st, at 3 p.m. A Social Gathering in the Great Hall will follow the Business Meeting.

By special request, the Professional Union of Trained Nurses is holding another Sale of the work of the Guild of Handicrafts at 6, Nottingham Place, W.1 (by kind permission of Mrs. Northwood), on Friday and Saturday, November 2nd and 3rd, from 3 to 8.30 p.m.

The proceeds of the recent flag-day held on behalf of the funds of the Cathedral Nursing Society for the Sick Poor, Newcastle-on-Tyne, amounted to £414 13s. 8d. The Committee wish to thank the workers who so willingly gave their services and also the general public for the splendid response they made to the appeal.

We are often asked if there is room for trained nurses in various parts of the Dominions and in the United States. We hear of a great shortage of nurses in many parts of the world, but well trained as many of our nurses are, we fear they are not as adaptable as they might be. Nor is this altogether their fault. England is an over-populated little kingdom, and its educational system does not qualify middle-class girls from little homes to face great spaces. For instance, we seldom meet a trained nurse who can ride, and in many parts of the world this is necessary. Again, how few nurses can speak a foreign tongue? This places them often at great disadvantage. We have heard nurses say: "I like things just so." That means very often a narrow outlook on life. The people in other lands like things "just so," and the old adage, "Do in Rome as the Romans do," is a hard lesson to learn, after years of routine. We have come to the conclusion that the domestic virtues are the most valuable assets which trained nurses are required to take along when seeking their fortunes in other lands.

Apparently quite a number of foreigners have of late years been admitted to hospitals for training, and already they are eligible for registration, and are taking up private nursing in England. This is specially so in Mental Hospitals, where the supply of well-educated probationers does not nearly meet the demand. The fact that in Scandinavia English is widely taught makes these refined probationers much

more acceptable than uncultured British girls. It is high time the millions we spend on education produced better results; as it is, we get very poor value for our money. English "as she is spoken" in our streets is a hideous lingo; manners there are none—you have but to try to board a bus to appreciate this, whacks, bangs and bruises being one's daily fate. But we have run away from the question of whether trained nurses are required abroad. A good nurse is of value and should be welcome in any part of the world, but she cannot pick and choose. She has got to adapt herself to her environment, and had better leave "just so" at home.

The *South African Nursing Record* informs us that: "The scholarship of £150 presented by the well-known firm of Allen & Hanburys, Ltd., to the S.A.T.N.A. was won by Nurse Banfield, who trained at the General Hospital, Johannesburg. Miss S. M. Behr, of Durban, was a close second. Miss Banfield sailed on September 7th by the "Kenilworth Castle" for England to commence her course of training as Sister Tutor at King's College Hospital, London, early next month. We extend to her our hearty congratulations, and we are sure that she will justify the generosity of Messrs. Allen & Hanburys in giving this splendid opportunity to South African nurses. Miss Behr also deserves congratulations; she was beaten only by three per cent."

NATIONAL COUNCIL OF TRAINED NURSES OF GREAT BRITAIN AND IRELAND.

The Grand Council of the National Council of Trained Nurses will have an interesting Agenda before it on Friday, November 9th, when it meets at 431, Oxford Street, London, W., at 4.30 p.m. Tea will be served at 4 p.m.

Miss M. Breay, the Hon. Treasurer of the Council, will give a report of the recent Meeting of the International Council of Nurses held at Copenhagen in July. We hope delegates from all affiliated Leagues and Societies of Nurses will be present. The suggestion to inaugurate an International Delegate Fund will be considered. Travelling is now so costly that it is only fair that the whole expense of attending a Conference abroad should not be entirely borne in the future, as it has been in the past, by the representative women the Council approves to represent it. The Isla Stewart Memorial Fund Committee approves of expenditure in this connection, but a grant is, of course, only available for members of the League of St. Bartholomew's Hospital Nurses.

[previous page](#)

[next page](#)