

NURSING ECHOES.

As we go to press, the Prince of Wales is paying a visit to Nottingham, where he is to open the fine new Nurses' Home, erected by public subscription, in connection with the General Hospital, and fulfil a number of other public duties.

His Royal Highness, during his visit to Notts, will be the guest of the Duke and Duchess of Portland at Welbeck Abbey, and will thus pass through some of the most exquisite sylvan scenery in England.

The members of the Nurses' Organisations of which THE BRITISH JOURNAL OF NURSING is the official organ will, now that Parliament has adjourned, wish to make public acknowledgment of their sincere appreciation of the generous manner in which Major R. W. Barnett, M.P., has supported their interests, and consequently the interests of the public, in the House of Commons during the past Session.

First, he has given freely of his valuable time, and has always been accessible to us inside and outside the House. We have to thank him for his careful scrutiny of new Rules framed by the General Nursing Council—which have been laid on the table of the House—and the effective action taken by him, on more than one occasion, in support of our professional rights. First, he secured that the Schedule (Constitution of Council) should be reconsidered by the General Nursing Council, as amended by the Registered Nurses' Parliamentary Council, and again submitted to the Minister of Health and Parliament within twelve months, so as to make it more democratic. Quite recently Major Barnett gave notice of a Motion which would have prevented the wholesale degradation and disorganisation of the Register by either Rule 9 (1) (g) or Dr. Chapple's modification, had not the latter been down first on the Order Paper and made a Party question by the Labour and Liberal Parties. Anyway, we owe it to his knowledge of the Nurses' Act and the Statutory Rules that the effect of the Chapple Rule will not be as disastrous as it might have been. Apparently it was the determination of the Parliamentary Medical Committee to give effect to the new Rule for two years, instead of from the original date agreed to July 14th, 1923, and every effort has been employed by these medical distributors of nursing favours to induce the Minister of Health to interpret the Nurses' Act in this sense.

Major Barnett, however, took every means to prove, and successfully, that any such extension for the registration of "Existing Nurses" (nurses without hospital training) would be contrary to the provisions of the Nurses' Act.

THE BRITISH JOURNAL OF NURSING, in the name of its readers (for the public as well as trained nurses are in his debt), offers warm thanks to Major Barnett for his national services, and wishes him a very happy holiday.

The bequest of Mr. John Howard of Brighton to trained nurses—preferably those who have worked in that town—has materialised, and twelve charming little houses have been built on the selected site at Kemp Town within sight of Roedean. It was originally hoped to build twenty-four, but the cost was too great. We learn there will be great competition for these residences, which will be furnished, but who the fortunate twelve nurses will be has not yet been announced. We do not quite know how nurses are to live on the very small income they may possess even with the additional few shillings a week the bequest provides.

We have to thank some kind anonymous friend for a gift of most sweet lavender. It is greatly appreciated.

The Swimming Festival in aid of the Prince of Wales General Hospital was held at Tottenham Municipal Baths on July 26th. Nurses from St. Bartholomew's, Guy's, University College, Middlesex, and the Prince of Wales Hospitals took part, and competed for "The Holmes Vase," which was again won by Guy's Hospital Nurses. No doubt the lovely swimming bath the nurses so greatly enjoy at this hospital accounts for their proficiency.

At the Annual Court of Governors of the East Suffolk and Ipswich Hospital, which is a highly efficient institution, Mr. J. D. Cobbold, who had provided at the Hospital a hard tennis court for the use of the nurses, expressed his gratification to learn that the facility for tennis during the nurses' leisure had been of such advantage. He proceeded to draw attention to the fund which had been formed to provide the nurses with additional money when they went for holidays. Some of the nurses had to travel long distances, he said, and it was rather hard on them to pay from their small salaries the heavy train fares involved. Some years ago he started a fund

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