

## NURSING ECHOES.

The Prince of Wales will visit King Edward VII Hospital, Windsor, on November 26th to open the nurses' hostel, which has been erected jointly as a war memorial and in memory of the late Sir William Shipley, who was chairman of the hospital. The Queen laid the foundation-stone of the hostel in April last.

His Royal Highness, Prince Arthur of Connaught, the new chairman of the Middlesex Hospital, accompanied by Princess Arthur, unveiled the memorial tablet to the men of the Borough of St. Marylebone who fell in the war, and accepted the endowment of the seventh memorial bed for the hospital from the Mayor of St. Marylebone on October 7th, in the Broderibb Ward of the hospital.

Prince Arthur of Connaught, who was accompanied by Princess Arthur, was present at the service in the chapel of the hospital, when the Bishop of Willesden gave the address, in the course of which he said that the chapel was one of the most beautiful of the chapels in the hospitals of London.

The Mayor of Marylebone after the service, in presenting the endowment of several memorial beds to Prince Arthur, alluded to the fact that Princess Arthur was a trained, and he might have added, a Registered Nurse. The Prince in unveiling the tablet said he was particularly touched by the kind reference to his wife's services as a nurse during the war. This is the second time the Royal Chairman of the Middlesex Hospital has expressed his gratification at the fact that Princess Arthur is a member of the honourable profession of nursing, and we Registered Nurses owe him a debt of gratitude for his recognition of our work to which such appreciation adds prestige. So many husbands of trained nurses fail to give prominence to the fact, and indeed many married nurses ignore their profession entirely, once on the retired list. "Once a nurse, always a nurse," the wise saying of the late Mrs. Hampton Robb, should be our motto.

On St. Luke's Day, October 18th, at 8.30 a.m., the Bishop of Kensington officiated at the dedication of a new Altar and Ornaments in the Westminster Hospital Chapel, which has lately undergone complete renovation. The Bishop, robed in Cope, Mitre, and splendid vestments, was assisted by Minor Canon Jocelyn Perkins and the Hospital Chaplain. Choral Celebration followed the dedication and address. The organist of Westminster Abbey, Dr. Hopkins, presided at the organ, and boys from the Abbey School formed the choir. Choice flowers decorated the chancel and altar. The Chapel was crowded, and in addition to the nursing staff there were present representative members of the House Committee, the Visiting Medical Staff, and the Ladies' Committee. At the conclusion of the service breakfast was served in the Board Room, when Mr. W. G. Spencer, Consulting Surgeon, on behalf of the Hospital, thanked the Bishop for so kindly coming amongst them; they all regretted the absence, owing to illness, of Bishop Ryle, Dean of Westminster, and he asked Mrs. Ryle, who was present,

to convey to the Dean their remembrances, sympathy, and good wishes for his complete recovery.

The Executive Committee of Queen Victoria's Jubilee Institute for Nurses at its October Meeting records good progress.

Queen Alexandra has appointed Sir D'Arcy Power as a member of the Council of the Institute, representing the Royal College of Surgeons.

Reports received from the various sub-committees on the work carried on since the last meeting of the committee showed most satisfactory progress. Ninety-eight nurses have been placed on the Roll of Queen's Nurses, and thirty-six candidates have been accepted for district training. Gratuities of £30 each have been made to six Queen's Nurses on retirement after at least twenty-one years' service. Six nurses have received grants from the Tate Fund to assist them in time of illness.

Much consideration is being given at the present time to the possibility of starting a pension scheme for the Queen's Nurses, and conferences of the affiliated associations are to be held to discuss the matter. The Committee of County Nursing Associations is also considering pensions for village nurse-midwives.

To cut down the £5,000 a year cost of breakages, Metropolitan infectious hospitals are to substitute metal ware for earthenware articles.

Under the old London Hospital system the breakage of crockery was reduced to a minimum. Each Sister was allowed 2s. 6d. per locker, and those who were wise handed the surplus to the staff-nurse. Matron took stock regularly, and with much *impresment* smashed cracked crockery with the ward poker, and this had to be replaced out of the 2s. 6d. Great care was therefore taken in handling crockery.

The question of hospital nurses' hair appears to agitate the male governed daily press. "To bob or not to bob," and then long pars of twaddle. What is needed is that a hospital nurse shall be able to keep her hair clean and tidy with the least possible loss of time. If it can be done by bobbing then let her bob. If not it should be worn in some other simple fashion. It is imperative that the hair should be neatly dressed—worn well under the cap—and not flop on her own face—or in that of the patient.

The momentous pronouncement has been made by the Derby Guardians that members of the infirmary staff are not to bob their hair.

At a recent meeting Mr. Thorpe moved back the regulation, declaring that it was foolish in the extreme. Short hair, he contended, was not only more hygienic, but would result in a saving of time.

Councillor Frank Porter said the proposed action was a ridiculous one for a public body to take.

Another member inquired whether any decision had been arrived at in regard to shingling.

It was pointed out that it was the patients who objected to nurses attending them with bobbed hair. The motion to refer the question back was defeated by 25 votes to 14.

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