

Hospital, Dartford (a hospital of 1,532 beds), for eight years and since February, 1918, has been Matron of the Northern Hospital, Winchmore Hill. The esteem in which she is held by her colleagues—doctors, matrons, sisters and nurses—may be judged from the fact that, some few years ago, they elected her to the position of President of the Fever Nurses' Association, a position she held with distinction.

Miss Bryson tells us that, in her nursing experience the fever epidemics of 1907 and 1914 have impressed her more than any other, and, probably, like many others, that of the influenza epidemic of 1918.

MISS HELEN L. PEARSE, S.R.N.

Miss Helen L. Pearse has had a long and varied career, enabling her to understand the needs, and consequently to represent the interests of many sections of nurses. She was trained and certificated at St. Bartholomew's Hospital, London, and she has held the position of Superintendent of Nurses at the North Staffordshire Infirmary, Stoke-on-Trent. She was also, for several years, Matron of the Royal Northern Hospital, Holloway Road, N.W. She takes a keen interest in nursing education and in Public Health work, in which she has had great experience. In 1907 she was appointed the first Superintendent of Nurses under the London County Council, with a staff of 27 nurses, and under her wise control the Service has prospered and developed until, at the present time, there are over 300 Registered Nurses caring for the children in the L.C.C. schools helping to raise the standard of health, to prevent the development of disease, to alleviate and cure sickness where it exists, and to inculcate habits of cleanliness and self-respect which will influence the whole subsequent lives of the children.

The higher standard of health, and the decrease of infectious disease in London is no doubt due in part to the careful work of the L.C.C. School Nurses, whose workmanlike and becoming uniform is well known and welcome in many a home as well as in the schools.

Miss Pearse supports the principle of self-government by the profession for the profession, believing that in this way economy in administration, and justice in discipline will be secured.

Miss Pearse is the President of the L.C.C. School Nurses' Social Union, and a Vice-Chairman of the Royal British Nurses' Association.

She is a great upholder of Internationalism in nursing, and has attended most of the International Congresses of Nurses.

In private life those who know Miss Pearse, know her as a charming companion, a straight, true, loyal and affectionate friend. An excellent traveller, fond of music, of art, of sport. What more can the heart of friend desire?

COUNCILLOR BEATRICE KENT, S.R.N.

Councillor Beatrice Kent is an outstanding personality in the Nursing Profession with a high sense of honour and justice, and a burning sense of injustice where wrongs, especially of women and little children, are concerned. She is very public-spirited, a forceful speaker, and an able writer.

Councillor Beatrice Kent is, of course, a State Registered Nurse, and, before the Nursing Acts were passed, most liberally supported the propaganda for State Registration of Nurses with money and personal service, speaking, writing and working to further the movement, as also that for woman's suffrage until the cause was won. She takes a keen interest in all that concerns the care of prisoners, including their nursing in infirmary wards, and as out-patients in their cells.

Miss Kent was trained and certificated at the Radcliffe Infirmary, Oxford, and is a Certified Midwife, holding the diploma of the Rotunda Hospital, Dublin, a training school in midwifery which is world renowned.

Since her retirement from active nursing work she has been engaged in social service. She has been a Borough Councillor (of the St. Pancras Borough Council) for the last five-and-a-half years, a distinction which was held by the late Miss Amy Hughes, S.R.N., and, we believe, by only one other trained nurse. She is also a member of the St. Pancras Council of Social Service, and Chairman of the Women's Branch of the South-West St. Pancras Conservative and Unionist Association.

She has been appointed by the Borough Council as Manager of a group of their Council Schools, of one Church school, and serves on many.

For some years she has been keenly alive to the Communist peril in this country, and has taken an active part in combating it, a public service which she considers the most important that one can render at the present time.

Miss Kent is an asset at any International Congress of Nurses, for she is an excellent linguist and speaks French, German and Italian fluently, how many more languages also she only knows.

As our friends across the ocean say, she has the Congress habit, and there are few, if any, of the meetings of the International Council of Nurses, which she has not attended, even braving the perils of the high seas to attend the meeting at San Francisco in 1915, an experience which she much enjoyed.

No notice of the career of Councillor Beatrice Kent would be complete without mention of the loyal support she has given and gives to THE BRITISH JOURNAL OF NURSING. Realising the value and necessity of an organ in the press, she has given much personal service in its behalf. Her pen is always at its disposal, and with her pen her knowledge of public service as it affects nursing and nurses.

Her many friends in this and other countries will be delighted that they will have the opportunity of renewing a pleasant and stimulating friendship at the coming meeting at Helsingfors.



COUNCILLOR BEATRICE KENT, S.R.N.,
President, Registered Nurses' Parliamentary Council.

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