

that she is one of the people of her own locality, and therefore understands them. It is a point which also has its disadvantages, as undesirable gossip and familiarity may result, and within our own knowledge has resulted, from this system.

The question of remuneration is an important one. We consider that the minimum salary and emoluments of a Queen's Nurse, who is a Registered Nurse and Certified Midwife, should be £250. At present it is £200, while that of the Village Nurse Midwife is £120. But while the Queen's Nurse during her three years' training maintains herself, and probably pays some £40 for her midwifery training, the Village Nurse Midwife is subsidised during training out of public funds by the Ministry of Health, or by charitable subscriptions. The relative value, therefore, not only from the point of view of efficiency, but financially, appears to be in favour of the trained nurse.

If the training of midwives for work amongst the poor is to be subsidised from public funds, the money would be spent to the best advantage if the subsidy were restricted to those who are Registered Nurses.

The third contributory cause to the unpopularity of district nursing in rural districts, with the best type of nurses, is that they dislike patronage from the laity.

If the nurse located in a rural district covers a large area, she will find in work for the prevention and cure of disease, health visiting and bedside nursing, in school nursing, ante-natal work, and Infant Clinics, a full and interesting occupation, and one advantage in working from a centre where other nurses reside is that the work can be so arranged that the risk of infection can be reduced to a minimum.

If, as Miss Nightingale says, we give the Queen's Nurse the training she should have, an endless vista opens up for her to-day of enlarged opportunities and greater activities, and of helping to secure an increasing reduction of maternal and infantile mortality, of blindness, of the zymotic diseases, and a general raising of the standard of life. Is there any branch of nursing which could be more satisfying, or bring her greater content? We do not think so.

NEWS IN BRIEF.

The Queen has consented to become patron of the Elizabeth Garrett Anderson Hospital in place of the late Queen Alexandra.

We deeply regret the loss to the profession of medicine occasioned by the death of Dame Louisa Aldrich Blake, for many years Senior Surgeon to the Elizabeth Garrett Anderson Hospital. A brilliant surgeon, with great personal charm, she will long be remembered with affection and admiration by a large circle of friends, patients, and professional colleagues.

Nowhere were the Christmas parties more enjoyable than at the Hospital for Sick Children, Great Ormond Street, W.C., to which both the King and the Prince of Wales had sent donations towards the expense of the entertainments, and the Queen and Princess Mary, quantities of toys, and the Queen's Hospital for Children, Hackney Road, E., where there was a Christmas tree in every ward, and Santa Claus, in the person of the Resident Medical Officer to distribute the fruit.

THANKS TO LORD AMPHILL.

Lord Amphill, G.C.S.I., G.C.I.E., has accepted the invitation by "a few grateful Registered Nurses," to attend at 431, Oxford Street, London, W., on Thursday, January 7th, at 3 p.m., the headquarters of the Central Committee for State Registration of Nurses, of which for many years he was the Chairman, when a copy of the State Register of Nurses will be presented to him in recognition of the great services he rendered in the House of Lords to State Registration of Nurses.

Pioneers of the movement for State organisation of Nursing Education, and legal status for Nurses, will remember that Lord Amphill piloted the Nurses' Registration Bill through the House of Lords in 1908, when it would have passed the Commons and become law, had we not been suffering under a reactionary Liberal Government, and that, when the Bill passed the Commons in 1919, Lord Amphill held a watching brief for the nurses in the Lords, where we saw him on several occasions seated on the Crimson Benches between one and two in the morning, keeping a vigilant eye on the noble Lord in charge of the Bill for the Government.

Lord Amphill's acceptance of the nurses' invitation will greatly gratify those who know their registration history.

NURSING ECHOES.

The Editor desires to express her heartiest good wishes for the New Year to all her readers, and to thank the numerous friends and colleagues in all parts of the world for their good wishes, Christmas greetings, cards, and calendars. The BRITISH JOURNAL OF NURSING is a bond of union between nurses of many countries and languages wherever trained nurses exist, and we greatly value these expressions of goodwill.

Her Majesty the Queen is acceding to requests that she will become the head of the most important Nursing Services. Thus Her Majesty has graciously promised to become President of the Queen Alexandra's Imperial Military Nursing Service, Queen Alexandra's Military Families' Nursing Service, and the Territorial Army Nursing Service, and also Queen Alexandra's Army Nursing Board. The designation of the Services is to remain the same.

Military Nursing Sisters will greatly appreciate the interest of, and association of Queen Mary with their honourable work.

The King and Queen, having approved of the suggestion that the Memorial to the late Queen Alexandra shall take the form of a fund for extending the work carried on by the Queen Victoria's Jubilee Institute for Nurses, a Meeting will be held at the Mansion House, on January 7th, in support of the fund, and will, we feel sure, meet with public approval, and generous support.

The Executive Committee of the Institute met recently at the Office, 58, Victoria Street. The various sub-committees submitted reports on the work carried

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