

**OUTSIDE THE GATES.**

Lady Emmott, Chairman of the Executive Committee of the United Women's Insurance Society, 439, Oxford Street, London, W., which, it will be remembered, now includes the Trained Women Nurses Friendly Society, referring in the *Woman's Leader* to the sound position of most Societies under the National Insurance Act, writes:—

"The valuation figures of the United Women's Insurance Society, needless to say, prove no exception to the rule, and handsome though the Society's first surplus was, the second surplus leaves it far in the shade, as the Actuary's figures reveal that the assets of this extraordinarily prosperous women's Society exceed its liabilities by no less a sum than £239,255, which is equivalent roughly to £ 4 10s. per head of membership.

"Many features have brought about the building up of this surplus—careful administration, scrupulous care in the investment of funds, and the general rise in the rate of interest on money which has been a feature of the last ten years. The chief factor is, however, the high quality of the lives of the members of the Society. Naturally enough, provision has been made for possible setbacks in the future by carrying forward very large sums in a Contingencies Fund, but even after putting by in this way £78,817, the Committee of Management find themselves with no less an amount than £233,920 to spend after reckoning in the amount brought forward from the last accounts.

"The way in which this large sum will be expended is as follows:—

"The normal sickness benefit of 12s. a week will be brought up to 17s. 6d., and disablement benefit, normally 7s. 6d., to 10s. 3d. The normal maternity benefit of £2 will be increased by 11s. Surgical dentistry will be given entirely free, and three-quarters of the cost of dentures. Hospital fees up to three guineas a week will be paid for members, who will also be entitled to free sojourn in a convalescent home, with travelling expenses in both cases. For those whose eyes need attention the Society will pay an ophthalmic surgeon's fee, and will give a grant of 10s. towards the cost of glasses. Three-quarters of the cost of surgical appliances is paid for, and members who require nursing can receive it free of charge, whilst finally the sum of several thousand pounds a year has been allocated for payments of weekly cash grants to members, up to a maximum of 17s. 6d. a week, in times of want or distress."

At long last the wish of St. Joan of Arc that a church to the memory of soldiers who died in war should be erected at Domrémy has been fulfilled. On August 28th the new Basilica was consecrated by the Bishop of La Rochelle, five other Bishops taking part in the service.

**COMING EVENTS.**

September 11th.—Meeting of Mental Hospitals Matrons' Association. R.B.N.A. Club, 194, Queen's Gate, London, S.W. 2.30 p.m.

September 24th.—Meeting of General Nursing Council for England and Wales. 20, Portland Place, London, W. 2.30 p.m.

September 25th.—Meeting of Council of the British College of Nurses. 431, Oxford Street, London, W. 5 p.m.

September 27th—October 2nd.—Free post-graduate course for Midwives. Clapham Maternity Hospital, Jeffreys Road, Clapham, S.W.

October 19th—22nd.—Annual Meeting and Conference, National Council of Women of Great Britain. Church House, Westminster, London, S.W.

**LETTERS TO THE EDITOR.**

*Whilst cordially inviting communications upon all subjects for these columns, we wish it to be distinctly understood that we do not in ANY WAY hold ourselves responsible for the opinions expressed by our correspondents.*

**RECTIFICATION OF ERRORS.**

To the Editor of THE BRITISH JOURNAL OF NURSING.

DEAR MADAM,—Owing to a typing error in the pass lists of candidates for the last examination one of the fever hospitals—Westhulme Infectious Diseases Hospital—was typed as "Westhulme Infirmary."

I shall be glad if you will kindly rectify this error.

Yours faithfully,  
MARION S. RIDDELL,  
*Registrar.*

The General Nursing Council for England and Wales, 20, Portland Place, London, W.1.

[Since receiving the above we have been asked by the Registrar to rectify another error, made in connection with Miss A. Whitworth (Candidate No. 1,241 for the May Final State Examination) from St. Luke's Hospital, Bradford. The name of this candidate should have been under the heading of "First Entries," and not of candidates re-entering for the Examination.—Ed.]

**A BADGE FOR MIDWIVES.**

To the Editor of THE BRITISH JOURNAL OF NURSING.

DEAR MADAM,—The Midwives and Maternity Homes Bill, 1926, having now become law, it is possible that you will make some comments on it in your paper, and incidentally refer to the fact that the Board is empowered to issue badges to midwives.

But before a badge can be issued certain rules governing the issue will be necessary, and these cannot be framed and become operative for some considerable time—probably not before the end of this year.

In these circumstances I think it will be well, in the interests of prospective applicants for badges, if you can kindly indicate the above position and state that no useful purpose will be served by midwives making application for badges until the rules are operative.

When badges are ready for issue I will let you know, and then the procedure to be adopted by applicants can be published.

Yours faithfully,  
H. G. WESTLEY,  
*Secretary.*

Central Midwives Board,  
1, Queen Anne's Gate Buildings  
Westminster, S.W.1.

**A BENEFIT TO THE WHOLE WORLD.**

To the Editor of THE BRITISH JOURNAL OF NURSING.

MY DEAR MRS. FENWICK,—I am very late with my congratulations to the British nurses on the wonderful Gift which has enabled them to found a College of Nurses. This information reached me in time that I was able to announce it at the Atlantic City Convention. Such recognition of nursing as a profession can be but a benefit to the whole world, and it is a great pleasure to us in America that this has come to our British sisters, and I know what this means to you after the years of devoted service which you have given to the nursing profession.

Most cordially yours,  
ADDA ELDREDGE, R.N.,  
*Director Bureau of Nursing Education,*  
State Board of Health, Madison, Wisconsin.

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