

NURSING ECHOES.

On Saturday, 7th instant, the new Nurses' Home of St. Mary's Islington Hospital was opened by H.R.H. Princess Arthur of Connaught. The Princess arrived at three o'clock and the sisters and nurses of the Hospital formed a guard of honour on the approach to the marquee. Her Royal Highness was received by the Mayor of Islington (Councillor Harrold, J.P.), who then presented to her the Chairman of the Board (Councillor Griffiths) and others. A bouquet of pink carnations was presented to the Princess by Sister G. Jones, Captain of the Nurses' Sports Club, and, on the platform, the Chairman of the Hospital presented to Her Royal Highness an illuminated address of welcome and expressed the pleasure which her presence gave to the authorities and to everyone connected with the Hospital. Princess Arthur next handed the prizes to nurses who had been successful in examinations and later opened and inspected the new Home. This Home is a fine building, beautifully situated and has two large recreation rooms besides the Sisters' Sitting Room, Visitors' Room and Dining-Room. Accommodation is provided for twenty Sisters on the first floor, on the remaining floors the nurses in training have their rooms. Heating is accomplished by means of hot-water radiators but coal fires are provided in most of the public rooms. The whole of the building is most tasteful in its arrangements and is constructed of fire-resisting materials.

A Home for elderly trained nurses was recently opened by the Mayor and Mayoress of Wandsworth at 75, Clapham Common, in connection with the Nurses' Fund for Nurses. The house has been generously presented to the Fund by the proprietors of the Cow and Gate Milk Food. The Mayoress (Mrs. S. Cresswell) was presented with a bouquet by Nurse Guernsey, who is 78 years of age.

The nurses of the Kingston and District Hospital, Kingston-on-Thames, are to have a new Home, which it is estimated will cost £100,000. Nurses trained now in poor law infirmaries are indeed well off in the consideration given to their comfort as compared with that considered suitable in many of them in the last century. There are to be separate bedrooms for five Sisters and 100 Nurses, suites of apartments for four Assistant Matrons, sitting rooms, a library, a lecture room, and the most up-to-date arrangements generally.

Miss C. E. Bailey, Matron, writes in the Annual Report of the General Hospital, Birmingham, in her Report on the Nursing School, that forty-nine candidates entered the Hospital during 1926. Thirty have remained for training, eleven have left for various reasons, while eight are still on probation. Of the forty-nine candidates, forty-six passed through the Preliminary Training School, the other three being State Registered Children's or Fever nurses.

Very good work is done in the Preliminary School. The student nurses are taught elementary nursing work,

which helps considerably when they enter the wards. Elementary Anatomy and Physiology are also taught. A full course of instruction in Hygiene is given and the students are taken to see model farms, dairies, industrial works and water works, etc.

The supply of candidates continues to be satisfactory, vacancies being filled some months in advance. There is no doubt that better conditions for the trained nurse will help to attract the right type of girl.

During the year certificates were awarded to 25 nurses, and 20 nurses left the Hospital having completed their training. Seven nurses were released from their agreements for various reasons.

Thirty-two nurses entered for the Final State Examination, and thirty-two for the Preliminary State Examination; three failed in part of the Final, and three in part of the Preliminary Examination.

The "George Heaton" prize for the best Sister or Staff nurse, as decided by the Matron, was given to Miss Erika Monsson, Sister of Ward 13. The prize for the best Sister or Staff nurse, decided by the votes of the Nursing Staff, was awarded to Miss Elizabeth Woodhouse.

Two nurses received free Midwifery training at the Maternity Hospital; both have obtained the certificate of the Central Midwives' Board.

His Excellency Lord Lytton (Governor of Bengal) was among the distinguished guests at a Farewell Party given on the 23rd March to the Countess of Lytton by the Calcutta Hospital Nurses' Hostel and Club at 4, Auckland Square.

On arrival the Countess of Lytton was met by Miss O'Farrell, the Secretary of the Club, and Sister Fulton, who presented Her Excellency with a bouquet. Miss O'Farrell conducted Lady Lytton to the lawn where an Address was read by Sister Will, the oldest member of the Club. On behalf of the Nurses, as a small token of gratitude and appreciation, Sister Glen presented Her Excellency with a crystal Ganesh (a symbol of Good Luck) and a pair of old Jaipur ear-rings. Her Excellency in thanking the Nurses for their gifts said that nothing could give her greater satisfaction than the knowledge of their appreciation of the Club. She had always longed for it to be a real benefit and comfort to them, and to-day she knew that it was—it was now a living part of Calcutta, and she hoped it would increase in capacity and prosper—she left with it her best wishes.

The Address, which was printed on parchment paper, illuminated with the crest of Calcutta at the top and that of the Club at the bottom, stated: "We do thank you most sincerely for the unfailing interest and kindness in our well-being which you have always shown, and for all the numerous benefits you have conferred on us in giving us such a delightful home and club in this great City. We hope and pray that the beneficent work which you have inaugurated will continue to be carried on as you would desire when you leave India."

Tea was served by Pelitis on the lawn, and for an hour Her Excellency moved amongst the Nurses bidding farewell to each one personally. As the time drew near for her departure the Nurses lined up by the gate and sang "For she's a jolly good fellow," and "Auld Lang Syne," as Her Excellency drove away amidst cheers.

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