

NURSING ECHOES.

Her Royal Highness the Princess Mary Viscountess Lascelles, whose many activities recently have included the opening of a new day nursery at Hoxton as a memorial to Muriel Viscountess Helmsley, who did such splendid work in connection with the provision of day nurseries on May 14th visited Manchester and laid the foundation stone of a new Nurses' Home. The Home, which has long been contemplated, will permit the employment of a larger staff of Nurses, so that their average hours of employment may be limited to 56 weekly.

The Princess also visited the Booth Hall Infirmary, under the management of the Manchester Board of Guardians, and opened two new open-air pavilions for sick and crippled children.

The Nursing Staff of the Kent County Mental Hospital at Maidstone are looking forward with keen anticipation to the visit of Princess Mary to that institution on Tuesday, June 7th, when Her Royal Highness will open the new Nurses' Home. The hospital is set in spacious and charming grounds, which should just now be looking their best. Let us hope for Royal weather.

Her Royal Highness the Princess Arthur of Connaught, S.R.N., on Thursday, May 31st, opened the Nurses' Bazaar in aid of the funds of the Westminster Hospital, when she was received by the Matron, and members of the Hon. Medical Staff, and after declaring the Bazaar open went over several departments of the hospital.

A play which all the Nursing World will surely want to see when it is put on in the autumn is "Florence Nightingale," by Captain Reginald Berkley, in which Miss Sibyl Thorndike is cast for the part of the heroine. The author states that he has had valuable assistance from a relative of Miss Nightingale and the play will deal with the whole of her life.

The Report for the year 1926 of Queen Victoria's Jubilee Institute, to the Patron, Her Majesty the Queen, states that:—

"With the approval of His Majesty the King and of Your Majesty, it has been decided in the near future to alter the name of the Institute. This change is to be made, with the desire of perpetuating the connection with the Queens of Great Britain and Ireland, and of giving a more exact description of the work undertaken by the Institute. The Scottish Council and the Irish Executive Committee have both expressed their agreement with the alteration. A revision of the Charter of Incorporation is required before the new title can be officially adopted, and advantage will be taken of this opportunity to make some further amendments and additions to the Charter, which seem desirable in view of the extension of the Institute's activities since the date of the Second Supplemental Charter (1904).

"The Council is much indebted to 'Queen Mary's Committee' for the sum of £2,000, which, as successors to 'Queen Alexandra's Committee,' they have handed over to the Institute for the twenty-first year in succession.

"Miss Rosalind Paget has again prepared a most valuable report on the work of the Institute's midwives. The statistics show that, during 1925, Queen's and Village Nurse-Midwives attended, either as midwives or maternity nurses, 73,011 cases. In the cases attended as midwives the maternal death-rate was 2.1 per thousand, the infant death-rate being 1.9 per cent. These figures show an increase on the mortality rates for 1924, but they compare very favourably with the general rates for England and Wales.

The Annual Report of the Committee of Management of the Nurses' Co-operation, 22, Langham Street, Portland Place, W., for the year ending December 31st, 1926, states that the prosperity of the Society is well maintained, and that vacancies are filled only by candidates who have worked six months on probation, and are State Registered Nurses. This is as it should be. Now that the minimum standard of efficiency, and consequently of safety, has been defined under the authority of Parliament, the public will do well before engaging a nurse to enquire whether she is trained and registered, and only to employ those who are.

The deaths during the year of Sister Hardwick, Sister J. M. Ellis, Sister Walsh and Sister Western are recorded with very deep regret. A generous legacy of £193 2s. 2d. was left to the Benevolent Fund by Sister Ellis.

Many grateful and appreciative letters continue to be received from the Matrons of Hospitals and Institutions for the garments sent them by the Nurses' Needlework Guild, and Miss Christie, the Hon. Secretary, would welcome new members. The terms of membership are very simple; one garment and an annual subscription of sixpence being asked from Nurse Members and two garments and a subscription of one shilling from Associates.

The Annual Meeting of the Overseas Nursing Association was held on May 17th at Admiralty House, Whitehall, S.W.1, by the kind permission of Dame Caroline Bridgeman, D.B.E., when Princess Beatrice, the Patron of the Association, who has shown a deep interest in its work by a frequent attendance at its annual meetings, was present.

The Colonial Secretary, the Right Hon. L. S. Amery, M.P., reminded those present that the idea of the formation of the Association had originated with Lady Piggott over thirty years ago, when her husband held an official position in Mauritius, and who had been deeply impressed by the loss of life and preventable suffering among British residents. The idea commended itself to the late Mr. Joseph Chamberlain, then Secretary of State for the Colonies, and owing to his help and encouragement, took shape.

One nurse was sent to Mauritius that year. Now some 660 nurses were employed in connection with the Association, over 500 under various Colonial Governments, and the others in private practice. Over 42 nurses were working for the British community in Shanghai alone. In all, the Association had sent out over 2,000 nurses; last year the number being 181.

Mr. Amery paid a tribute to the work of the Com-

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