

entertained at a dinner by the Nursing Leaders, Miss Johnson of the Massachusetts General Hospital, Miss Carrie Hall of the Peter Bent Brigham Hospital, President of the National League of Nursing Education, and many others of the nurses of Boston.

"Miss Anna Maxwell, well known in this country, was a guest of honour, too, and declared her intention of visiting the Congress at Peking, if alls well.

"Christmas in Boston was a wonderful time. I never saw so many Christmas trees in all my life. Hotels, stations, public parks and gardens, as well as private homes all had beautifully decorated and illuminated Christmas trees.

"In the hospitals, not only every large ward, but every small ward, and every private room each had its illuminated tree. At midnight on Christmas Eve all the Boston churches held services. I shall never forget our Christmas experience there, it was so beautiful.

"We addressed a meeting of nurses at the Massachusetts General Hospital, also at Providence, near Boston, where Miss Mary Gardner presided at the meeting.

"I visited several more psychiatric institutions, and was still more impressed with the splendid work being done. Isn't it interesting to note that Yale University has conferred a Professorship of Psychiatric Nursing on Miss Taylor? Though other women are professors in Nursing Education, this is the first of actual nursing, and is Mental Nursing."

Miss Stephenson when she wrote hoped to be in Hankow by the end of January.

A PROFESSORSHIP IN PSYCHIATRIC NURSING.

It is interesting to learn that Yale University has conferred a Professorship of Psychiatric Nursing on Miss Effie J. Taylor, Superintendent of Nurses at New Haven Hospital, New Haven, Conn. Miss Taylor, whose parentage is British, was born in Hamilton, Ontario, Canada, and was educated at the Hamilton Collegiate Institute, Wesleyan Ladies' College, Hamilton.

She received her professional education at the Johns Hopkins Hospital, Baltimore, and graduated in 1907, when Miss M. A. Nutting was Superintendent of Nurses, and in 1908-1909 studied at Teachers' College, Columbia University. She also took a post-graduate course in State and Private Mental Hospitals in New York State and Massachusetts, and has held the following positions:—Instructor, Johns Hopkins Hospital School of Nursing, 1909; Assistant Superintendent of Nurses, Johns Hopkins Hospital, 1912; Organised Nursing Department and was Director of Nursing, Phipps Psychiatric Clinic, 1912-1920; Associate Principal Johns Hopkins Hospital School of Nursing, 1920-1923; Director Army School of Nursing, Camp Meade, 1918; Executive Secretary, National League of Nursing Education, January to October, 1923; Superintendent of Nurses, New Haven Hospital, New Haven, Conn.; Associate Professor, Yale University School of Nursing; and is the author of various papers and pamphlets on nursing subjects.

She has also been Secretary, Maryland State Nurses'

Association for several years; Secretary, National League of Nursing Education, 1917-1919; Member of the Board of Directors, National League of Nursing Education, 1916-1922.

Other women, as Miss Stephenson points out, have been appointed Professors in Nursing Education, but, so far as we know, this is the first of actual Nursing.

A SUCCESSFUL FUNCTION.

Mrs. Northwood, S.R.N., of Nottingham Place, W., is to be greatly congratulated upon the success of the Carnival Dance she organised at the Marylebone Hall, on February 2nd, and we regret that owing to going to Press we are unable to do full justice to a report of the function. Suffice it to say that the whole thing went with a swing. Plenty of company, an excellent band, and a great variety of pretty and most amusing fancy dresses. The Matrons present,

not all in their *premiere jeunesse* were dancing gaily, and Sisters and nurses acting their characters with great spirit. Three men's costumes were excellent — "John Bull," who was awarded First Prize for male characters, was evidently a direct descendant of Terpsichore; Dr. Oram, a most handsome and debonair "Sir Walter Raleigh," in velvet and satin, was offered a prize; and Miss Ellen Birch, an inimitable "Four Wheel" Cabby, who in caped coat, ruffled top-hat, crimson necktie, and long whip in hand, acted the part to the manner born, won a prize; a true comedian, had she been an actress instead of a nurse Miss Birch's banking account would have been considerably augmented. Many Sisters, Nurses, and others looked charming. We specially admired Miss Beth Kennedy (Barts.) as Pierrette in black and white, tall and graceful, with the most cunning little dancing feet. The two Rag Dolls were inimitable and were awarded the First Prize for women. A Black Bird with yellow beak, won a prize. a very well sustained dicky bird. Time and space must be our excuse

for omitting to mention many other successful dresses.

The dancing was full of swing for modern methods, and was kept up with *verve*.

Mrs. Bedford Fenwick presented the prizes awarded by a Selection Committee of four.

We hear the National Council of Nurses will receive quite a handsome cheque, which, considering tickets were only 3s. 6d., proves the business capacity of Mrs. Northwood.

RIVER POLLUTION.

The third report of the Standing Committee on River Pollution sounds the warning note that unless some co-ordinate effort is made in the near future to cope with the progressive pollution of the rivers of England and Wales, the problem may ultimately prove beyond solution. It is a lamentable fact that, although the menace has been known and commented on for many years, and although it threatens all classes from several points of view, the public, in the main, have regarded it with great indifference.



Photo] [Bachrach
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