

## NURSING ECHOES.

The King has been pleased to confer the decoration of the Royal Red Cross, First Class, upon Miss Agnes Charlotte Markwick, A.R.R.C., Queen Alexandra's Imperial Military Nursing Service, Matron of the Louise Margaret Hospital, Aldershot, in recognition of the exceptional devotion to duty displayed by her in Military Families Hospitals.

Her Majesty the Queen has been graciously pleased to approve the appointment of 114 Nurses to be Queen's Nurses.

At a recent meeting of the General Committee of the Queen's Fund for the maintenance of the Queen's Institute of District Nursing, at 58, Victoria Street, when Lord Aberdare presided, the statement of accounts and the report for 1927 were adopted. Special reference was made to the valuable help given by Queen Mary's Committee, under the presidency of Lady Northcote, who have contributed £2,000 to the funds.

The Rev. J. Scott Lidgett was nominated as one of the representatives of the subscribers on the Council of the Institute in the place of the late Mr. Edwin Tate.

Sir Harold Boulton, in thanking Lord Aberdare for presiding, expressed the gratitude of the Council of the Institute to the subscribers for their valuable help, and appealed for further subscribers so that this work might be extended.

The Diaries of Sylvester Douglas (Lord Glenbervie) edited by Francis Bickley, give an insight into the extraordinary cruelty with which the insane—even the highest in the land—were treated at the time when they were written. Lady Glenbervie, who was a daughter of Lord North, was one of the Ladies of the Princess of Wales and heard all the news and scandal. The infirmity of the King (George III) was then in every one's mind. An entry in the Diary states the report of a Court Lady that "the King cannot bear the name of any of the family (of Willis, his physicians), and that he ascribes the weakness which he now complains of in his limbs to their severity during his illnesses. She says they used to beat him most violently."

Poor King George III. He suffered "many things" for it is recorded elsewhere of this unfortunate monarch that one of his attendants knocked him down "as flat as a flounder."

The Committee of Management of the Nurses' Co-operation, 22, Langham Street, Portland Place, London, W., state in their annual report for 1927 that they, with pleasure, find themselves in a position which shows that the prosperity of the Society is maintained in spite of a depleted staff.

The Nurses on the Staff number 382, and 2,637 cases were nursed during the year.

Thirty-one Nurses have resigned during the year, in addition to five who have married, and the deaths of Sisters Mullings and Pitt are recorded with deep regret.

Seven new members have been welcomed to the Co-operation.

The Report of the Ranyard Nurses (the Nursing Branch of the Ranyard Mission, 25, Russell Square, London, W.C.), for 1927 emphasises the fact that the year was a notable one in the history of the Mission, for it was the 70th year since Mrs. Ranyard sent out Marian, the first Biblewoman, into the terrible slums round about the Seven Dials. Little did either of them think into what a large organisation that small venture would grow.

The Ranyard Nurses form a body of fully-trained Hospital Nurses engaged in nursing the sick poor in their own homes, in various parts of London, working from a sense of Christian vocation, and using their influence to uplift the lives of the people, amongst whom they live.

Four Superintending Sisters visit with the Nurses, directing their work and reporting to Ranyard House. Systematic communication is thus maintained, and by this means emergencies can be met, and a high standard of work ensured. The number of Nurses on December 31st, 1927, was as follows: Staff Nurses, 75; Supernumerary Nurses, 14; total, 89.

It will be remembered that Miss Agnes Jones, later the pioneer of workhouse nursing at Brownlow Hill Infirmary, Liverpool, was associated with the Ranyard Mission in its early days.

Recently the Eastbourne Guardians requested the Ministry of Health to hold an inquiry into the general administration of the Workhouse Infirmary, the reasons being the resignation of the Chairman of that position, though not of the membership of the Board, and the facts disclosed at an inquest on an infant who died in the maternity ward, that it was rubbed with carbolic instead of olive oil. The Ministry sent down three inspectors, who reported to the Department, who made certain recommendations as to arrangements which they did not consider should be allowed to continue in their present form, but with regard to the actual treatment of patients the inspectors reported that they were quite satisfied that every care and attention is bestowed upon them by the medical and nursing staffs. We wonder if the parents of the dead baby are of the same opinion.

The Guardians, at a special meeting to consider the matter, expressed themselves dissatisfied with the action of the Ministry, decided to ask for an interview with the Minister of Health, and appointed a deputation. We learn upon enquiry from the Clerk to the Eastbourne Guardians that he "regrets he has no information to give in regard to the proposed deputation."

The American Nurses' Memorial to their colleagues who died on active service in the Great War as our readers are aware, is a building which serves as the residence and school for the faculty and students of the Florence Nightingale School of Nursing, connected with the Maison de Santé de Bordeaux, in Southern France.

It was felt, says *The Public Health Nurse*, that no more useful and enduring memorial could be established to the 291 American nurses who died in the line of duty during the World War than by strengthening the work of this admirable School for French Nurses.

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