

## NURSING ECHOES.

The Dowager Lady Dimsdale, vice-chairman of the Mansion House Territorial Army Nursing Service Committee, has recently expressed to the Matron-in-Chief of the T.A.N.S. her opinion that the Mansion House Committee has now become unnecessary.

Lady Dimsdale has now been informed by the Director-General of the Army Medical Service, that her letter was considered at the meeting of the Territorial Army Nursing Service Committee on May 21st and the recommendation of that Committee was, later on the same day, submitted for approval to Queen Alexandra's Army Nursing Board.

In view of the fact that the Territorial Force Nursing Service has been merged with the Territorial Army Nursing Service, whose obligations are somewhat different, in that its members are no longer liable for Home Service only, it has been decided by the Board that the object for which the Mansion House Committee was originally formed has been accomplished, and that as the Service is now organised on altered lines, the need for the Committee no longer exists.

The members of Queen Alexandra's Army Nursing Board, with which is included the Territorial Army Nursing Service Committee, desire that their high appreciation of the valuable work performed since its inception by the Mansion House Committee should be placed on record, and they have also requested the Director-General to convey to Lady Dimsdale personally, who has so long and ably acted as vice-chairman, and to ask her to convey to the members of the Committee their grateful thanks for very valuable services freely and generously given.

At the Annual Meeting of the National Poor Law Officers' Association at Sheffield on June 16th, Mrs. L. E. Croucher, S.R.N., the Matron for the Bromley Institution, was elected President of the Association for the ensuing year. The retiring President, Mr. L. Richmond, in making the announcement, asking her to accept the office, said—as reported in the *Poor Law Officers' Journal*—he was sure all the members would wish him to assure her of all loyal support during her year of service to them. When they thought of the work she had done for the Association, particularly in respect of the Nurses in the Poor-Law Service, during her three years of vice-presidency and as a member of the Executive Committee, they would agree that such work had recommended her for appointment to the presidency of the Association. Mrs. Croucher had the great distinction of being the first lady to occupy the most important position in their gift, and he would like to take the opportunity of congratulating her upon having received this mark of confidence from her colleagues, and to express the hope that she would have as enjoyable a year of office as he had had himself.

Mrs. Croucher then took the chair amid much enthusiasm.

The Guild of St. Barnabas for Nurses kept their Festival on June 11th, the day of their Patron Saint, beginning with a Corporate Communion at St. Alban's,

Holborn, and concluding with the Annual Meeting at the Holborn Hall. Father Ross, who is Chaplain of the Guild, was in the Chair, and messages were read from the Bishop of London, Bishop Gore, and Miss C. J. Wood. The Archdeacon of London, an old friend of the Guild, and Canon W. H. G. Holmes, were the speakers of the evening.

Sir Maurice Craig, C.B.E., F.R.C.P., speaking from the Chair at the "At Home" given at the Church House, Westminster, on June 7th by the Nurses' Missionary League, said:—

"Many of us long to see the day when Church and Medicine will again work more closely together, and I am using the word 'Church' in its widest sense, and embracing in it, as your League does, all the Free Churches. Many from both sides are trying to find out in what degree and in what ways the Church can assist in the healing of disease. All Christian people would agree that the spiritual help that can be given to a patient and to his relations in times of sickness is infinitely great, indeed from this aspect alone it is invaluable, giving as it does hope and courage to the patient and the household with whom he lives. The Archbishop of Canterbury's Advisory Committee on Spiritual Healing, to which I have the honour to belong, is searching to find out the various direct ways in which the Church can help, and, with this end in view, we welcome any facts that anyone can give us, and you of the nursing world may have opportunities of collecting evidence that may help us. I would ask you, if you have any evidence at all, do not think it is too small but send it to us.

"The nursing profession is one of the hardest and yet one of the greatest callings in life. Your work does not end with technical knowledge. I would rather put it that your technical knowledge is but an adjunct to something far greater, and it is this something that your Missionary League stands for. Men may lead good lives and do good for the sake of goodness itself, but if their goodness is based on verities, as we believe, then their power to do good is infinitely increased."

The Council of the College of Nursing, Ltd., sought at its Annual Meeting on June 28th and obtained the authorisation of the Members, to accept on behalf of the Company the Royal Charter as settled by His Majesty's Privy Council, though not with unanimity.

As we have already forecast, the new body has not been allowed to maintain a Register of Nurses, but only a Roll of Members. Had the permission it applied for to keep a Register of Nurses been granted this would inevitably have been in competition with the State Register, which would have been disastrous.

In opposition to its former policy, incorporated in its Memorandum of Association which expressly provided "that the College shall not grant, or profess to grant titles or diplomas," the Charter now granted gives the College power "to grant Certificates and Diplomas to those who pass prescribed examinations," provided no Certificate or Diploma shall confer any right to the privilege of a nurse registered in pursuance of an Act of Parliament."

It is greatly to be regretted that in applying for a

[previous page](#)

[next page](#)