

NURSING ECHOES.

There are two matters of importance to nurses, of which we may remind our readers.

1. That September is the month in which they should forward 2s. 6d. retention fee to the General Nursing Councils if they wish to have their names inserted in the next issue of the printed Register of Nurses—and the sooner this is done the better; and

2. Thousands of nurses of twenty-one years of age and upwards, are eligible under the new Equal Franchise Act to vote in the forthcoming Parliamentary Election. As it is probable that the election will take place next June, nurses should take steps to have their names inscribed in the list of voters in the constituencies in which they reside. In the past there has been a decided disinclination to have the names of hospital nurses placed upon the Register. We advise them, therefore, to be awake to their new privilege, and to act as responsible citizens in this very important matter. Nurses and probationers in hospitals should consult the Matron, who might be asked to have a complete list of resident nurses compiled, for the use of the local Registrar, and then to see that their names are duly included.

Copies of the Representation of the People (Equal Franchise) Act should be filed in every Nursing School and Institution, so that it can be carefully studied by those upon whom the Parliamentary Vote has been bestowed. Further, as soon as the names of the Candidates for Parliamentary honours are available in a constituency, nurses should make themselves acquainted with the record and policy of such persons, so as to record their votes with knowledge.

The Act alluded to can be studied at the British College of Nurses and, in the autumn, a meeting will be held to consider its provisions.

The College has decided to adopt a Health Policy, which will include suggested relations between the Nursing Profession and the Government, as—in recent years—the importance of trained nursing in relation to standards of national health have been persistently ignored. Many items spring to mind. First and foremost—the *right* of nurses in training to a prescribed curriculum of training, before State Examination, as laid down in the Nurses' Registration Acts, and which for years the Ministry of Health has failed to compel the General Nursing Council to enforce. There are other matters of importance where the interests of the

public and the nurses need consideration by Parliament, and now is the time to bring them forward.

Miss Dorothy Snell, F.B.C.N., Matron of the Scuola Convitto Regina Elena at the Policlinico Hospital at Rome, who has been in this country for some months, left London on Wednesday last, and in a few short weeks now we shall hope to meet her again in the Eternal City.

Donna Maria Maraini Guerrière Gonzaga, President of the Scuola Convitto, and Miss Snell, are most kindly entertaining Mrs. Bedford Fenwick, President of the National Council of Nurses of Great Britain, Miss E. M. Musson, Miss M. Breay, Miss A. M. Bushby, Miss F. M. Bartleet, Miss Isabel Macdonald and Miss M. Ritchie-

Thomson during the Congress week, and they are looking forward with keen anticipation to meeting these ladies who have done so much to further the cause of Nursing Education in Italy, and the Nursing Staff of the Policlinico trained under Miss Snell's sympathetic direction.



DONNA MARIA MARAINI GUERRIÈRE GONZAGA.
President, Scuola Convitto Regina Elena, Rome.

The First Re-Union Dinner of Princess Mary's Royal Air Force Nursing Service will take place at the Richelieu Rooms, Hotel Cecil, Strand, W.C.2, on Friday, September 21st at 8 p.m., with the Matron-in-Chief, Miss J. M. Cruickshank, C.B.E., R.R.C., in the Chair. Past members are cordially welcomed to attend, and tickets, 12s. 6d. each, may be obtained on application to Miss M. Welch, Matron, P.M.R.A.F.N.S., Air Ministry, Kingsway, W.C.2. After dinner guests may, if they so wish, join in the dancing in the Palm Court.

The Territorial Army Nursing Service Benevolent Fund, which has been in existence since 1917, continues to be of the greatest service to many members of the Territorial Army Nursing Service who through disability (not necessarily attributable to War service) are in need temporarily of some small pecuniary assistance.

The Cottages at Rickmansworth, occupied by retired members of the Service, continue to be greatly appreciated, and it is hoped that in the near future additional Cottages of the same type may be erected, where retired members with very limited private means or small Government pensions can live rent free.

At the present time one of the Cottages at Rickmansworth is vacant, and applications are invited from past members T.A.N.S. (see page i of our advertisement supplement). The residents have the privilege of

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