

be extended, for many in the district to which it is proposed to send them are suffering great privations.

It is not often that vacancies occur in the Matronships of two of the large London hospitals at the same time. But such is the case at present. The post of Matron of King's College Hospital, Denmark Hill, is vacant by the resignation of Miss Willcox, and that at the Middlesex Hospital by the resignation of Miss Montgomery.

In an article on the International Council of Nurses in the *Public Health Nurse* for November, published in Chicago, we notice the statement that for some years the International Council of Nurses was affiliated with the International Council of Women.

The International Council of Nurses which was founded in London in 1899, has never been associated with the International Council of Women, and has been an entirely independent organisation since the day of its inauguration. At an early date, it is hoped that an accurate history of the founding and progress of the International Council of Nurses will be compiled by those who created and have been associated with it since its foundation.

On Thursday, November 29th, the new Nurses' Home of St. Mary Abbot's Hospital, Kensington, was opened by Her Royal Highness Princess Beatrice, who has always taken a warm interest in the hospital.

A very happy party was given at the Club of the Royal British Nurses' Association by Miss Beatrice Cutler, on December 7th, the birthday of the Association.

We were somewhat mystified on the previous evening to receive a box of beautiful cake, but were enlightened and gratified by receiving on December 7th the following telegram :

Royal British Nurses' Association sends warm good wishes and kindest greetings to its Founder.—Macdonald, Secretary.

Our heartiest thanks to one and all.

The Matron-in-Chief and members of Queen Alexandra's Imperial Military Nursing Service held their Annual Reception in King Edward VII Rooms, Hotel Victoria, Northumberland Avenue, on November 14th, 1928.

Among those present were the Dowager Countess of Airlie, the Dowager Countess of Minto, Field-Marshal Sir George and Lady Milne, Sir Walter Braithwaite, Sir Matthew Fell, Colonel and Mrs. Hutton, and many others.

It was very much appreciated that all the retired Matrons-in-Chief attended, with the exception of Dame Sidney Browne and Miss Keer, who are living out of town and were unable to be present.

The musical programme was supplied by the St. Dunstan's Band of War Blinded Musicians and under their gay strains many friendships were renewed and old ties strengthened.

The seventh Annual Meeting of the United Nursing Services' Club was held at 34, Cavendish Square on

November 21st and the Report bore evidence of a very successful year ; there was a profit on the year's working of £824 4s. 9d. The Directors put before the Meeting the proposition that a 5 per cent. dividend be paid, and the Preliminary and Formation expenses amounting to £896 10s. 9d. be written off over a period of three years. This was agreed.

Dame Ethel Becher, R.R.C., said that it had given very great pleasure to the Members to learn that H.R.H. the Duchess of York had consented to become President of the Club and had promised to visit it at no distant date.

It was also announced that Dame Ethel, Foundress of the Club, had accepted the office of Vice-President. One of the Directors, in commenting upon the large increase in the Membership of the Club said that this reflected great credit upon its management and he particularly drew attention to the influence of their very efficient Secretary, Miss Steele, R.R.C., in maintaining such a satisfactory position of affairs.

This year the Imperial Nurses' Club, 137, Ebury Street, S.W., has published a charming blotter incorporating a greeting from Wilhelmina Stitch, and calendars for 1929, 1930 and 1931. It costs 1s. 6d., and would be a much appreciated Christmas gift.

Mr. E. H. Worth, M.R.C.S., 2, Aldington Road, Streatham, complains that the London County Council has sent a bombshell into the camp of the Nursing Homes because it has issued orders that every Nursing Home must henceforth have a trained nurse resident in the house. The Nursing Homes Registration Act makes this requirement, and it is little enough. Nursing now being a legalised profession, the public must be protected from what are really lodging houses calling themselves Nursing Homes and taking money for the professional services which the proprietors and staff do not possess. Such houses have no more right to the title Nursing Home than Medical Home.

Those British Nurses who on their recent visit to Rome had the pleasure of meeting Mother Catherine, who has been for 35 years Matron of the British Hospital of the Blue Nuns in Rome, will learn with pleasure that she has been awarded by the King of Italy the silver medal of the Public Health Service, which was presented to her on the Feast of St. Catherine (November 25th) by the Duchess of Aosta in the presence of a large official gathering.

The congratulations of their colleagues are due, and are heartily tendered, to Mrs. Bennie, President of the South African Trained Nurses Association and Miss B. G. Alexander, its Hon. Secretary, on their election as the two nurses' representatives on the Union Medical Council of South Africa, under which the nurses are registered in that country, but so far have had no representation on their governing body. As Founder of the International Council of Nurses we have cabled our congratulations through the *South African Nursing Record* to all who have successfully worked to secure this representation.

[previous page](#)

[next page](#)