

Agnes Elizabeth Jones—attractive, talented, and a devoted nurse—died at the early age of 36, of typhus fever, contracted in the performance of her duty.

So a wish which she had expressed some years before, to a near relative that she should die at the post of duty, was fulfilled.

When the Duchess of York opened a new Nurses' Home at the Kingston and District Hospital, Kingston-on-Thames on March 29th, the Duke of York responding to the Address of Welcome, said that their tour of the Empire had convinced them that there was a great need of closer co-operation between the Dominions and the Mother Country in matters relating to health and the treatment of disease, just as there was in matters of trade and commerce, and made the following appeal:

"You have here a hospital of which you may well be proud. Will you encourage visitors from overseas, and especially those who are interested in this kind of work, to come and see it? They would, I feel, greatly profit thereby, and I venture to think you would gain something too, and at the same time you would be doing a service to the Empire."

This is the policy adopted by the International Council of Nurses at its Conference at Geneva last year in relation to the Nurses affiliated in this great organisation, and one to which effect is already being given by The British College of Nurses.

Mrs. Emma Grace Marryat, of Dundee, a generous benefactor of that city, which recognised her generosity by conferring its Freedom upon her, left £100,000 to the Town Council of Dundee upon trust for investment, and to apply the income in the acquisition of land in and around Dundee for the benefit of the community, this fund being known as "The Sir James Caird Land Acquisition Fund." She also left £20,000 to the Caird Jubilee Nursing Home in Dundee, a bequest which could scarcely be more beneficial, for the ministrations to the sick poor of well-trained Queen's Nurses are some of the most valuable carried on in modern times.

The Guild of St. Luke for Nurses is an organisation which has been formed in Dublin, with the sanction of His Grace the Archbishop, to bring together in a religious and social fellowship nurses who are members of the Church of Ireland.

Its inaugural meeting was held on Tuesday, February 24th, at Dr. Steevens' Hospital, and the fact that more than eighty nurses accepted the invitation, shows that the Guild meets a need. After tea, the rules and organisation of the Guild were discussed and arranged, and the evening concluded with a short service in the Chapel of the Hospital.

The first President of the Guild is Miss Reeves, Matron of Dr. Steevens' Hospital, who has taken a deep interest in its inception. The Committee is representative of the hospitals and nursing homes of Dublin. Information about the Guild will be gladly supplied to nurses by Miss Holmes, Dr. Steevens' Hospital, Hon. Secretary. The Chaplains of the Guild are the Ven. the Archdeacon of Dublin, the Rev. E. H. F. Campbell, and the Rev. E. M. Bateman.

In our last issue we drew attention to a very hopeful report as to the discovery of a cure in early cases of leprosy, made at the Annual Meeting of the British Empire Leprosy Relief Fund. What this will mean to thousands of unfortunate people who have contracted this dreaded disease is difficult to estimate. Only this week the tragedy is reported in *The Times* of the death of Father Francis Xavier Nicouleau, who died in the Fiji Islands. For nine years he held the post of priest in the leper colony at Makogai, and then, when broken in health he was taking a rest, he discovered in himself clear symptoms of leprosy, and this was confirmed by three doctors. According to the law he had to return to Makogai, not as chaplain, but as a leper.

As long as he was able he said Mass in a primitive chapel, in his hut of reeds and leaves, served by a leper whose legs had been amputated, and in a small workshop made wooden limbs for those whose arms and legs had been removed. Then first he had to have amputated a toe and several fingers, suffered intensely from internal pains and fever, and became a pitiable sight, until after six years of suffering his release came.

This tragic community of lepers is cared for by twelve European Sisters of the Third Order Regular of Mary, and ten native Sisters. Alas, Sister Philomena, a native Sister, has contracted the dread disease. Let us hope that the new treatment by "alepol" may be brought to the notice of the authorities of the Makogai Leper Settlement, and that it may be tried and prove beneficial. It surely requires as great heroism to volunteer for service of the sick in a leper settlement with the risk of contracting this dread disease, and of dying by inches, in intense pain and isolation, as it does to face enemy guns and the risk of sudden death.

The appointment of Miss Mabel K. Holt as Superintendent of Nurses of the Montreal General Hospital, in succession to the late Miss S. E. Young, has given much satisfaction to the graduates of that nursing school.

Miss Young and Miss Holt, her successor, were, says *The Canadian Nurse*, both trained by Miss N. G. E. Livingston, that pioneer of nursing in Canada. Miss Livingston and Miss Young (her assistant) early recognised Miss Holt's ability, which coupled with a gracious and charming personality makes her most admirably fitted to follow in the footsteps of her distinguished predecessors.

Since graduation, Miss Holt has occupied the position of Second Assistant Superintendent of Nurses in her own Training School; graduated in Hospital Administration from the McGill School for Graduate Nurses in 1924; for one year was on the teaching staff of the Montreal General Hospital; for two years was Assistant Superintendent of Nurses at the Hamilton General Hospital, and now assumes the position of Matron of the School of the Montreal General Hospital, in which position she is wished all success by her friends and co-workers, a wish which we cordially endorse.

Miss Holt is a member of the Committee on Arrangements for the Congress of the International Council of Nurses in Montreal next year.

[previous page](#)

[next page](#)