

NURSING ECHOES.

Sister Catherine Black, S.R.N., trained at the London Hospital, one of the four Nurses selected to nurse the King during his critical illness last year, has now been appointed permanent Nurse to His Majesty. It is understood that this is in no way an indication that the King's health is causing anxiety, but only that it is considered expedient that the appointment should be recognised as permanent.

Her Majesty the Queen has been graciously pleased to approve the appointment of ninety-three nurses to be Queen's Nurses to date, two to date April 1st and the remainder July 1st.

Thousands of Registered Nurses will be grieved to learn of the serious illness of Major Sir Richard Barnett, to whose services in the House of Commons in connection with their Registration Act they owe so much. It is satisfactory to know that he is receiving every care from Registered Nurses who appreciate the privilege of nursing him, and we hope in our next issue to report that he is convalescent.

At a luncheon at Pagani's Restaurant, presided over by Prince Arthur of Connaught, given to foreign and American Press representatives, who visited and inspected the new wing of the Middlesex Hospital, some interesting remarks were made by Mr. A. E. Webb-Johnson, surgeon to the hospital, in reference to the Nurses' Home when speaking on the planning of the new Middlesex. He said that England had been the birthplace of scientific nursing as a profession and the gift of the Home had enabled them to give nurses a residential college which should have not only a university standard, but a university atmosphere. They believed that if this example were followed they would attract a type of nursing undergraduates equal in culture and education to those entering any other profession.

Mr. Comyns Berkeley, obstetric and gynaecological surgeon to the hospital, commented on the number of scientists and medical men who visited the hospital each week; they had an average of 45 foreign students attending their post-graduate class, and they trained nurses from Germany, Holland, and Sweden. In the early days of the hospital there were founded two wards for French *émigrés*, and since then the percentage of foreign patients had been high.

In the course of the inquest on the victims of the terrible airplane disaster at Meopham last week, the coroner said that he wished to express appreciation on behalf of the jury, and the public generally, of the excellent work done by Nurse Colley, the district nurse, who lives at Clements Reach, Meopham. She assisted the police from immediately after the accident until well after midnight.

Alas that it was only possible to perform the last offices for the dead, but it must be some consolation to the bereaved that some one with the knowledge of what was necessary was on the spot, ready and anxious to render these as tenderly and carefully as possible in the sad circumstances.

A delightful little dinner party was given on Saturday, July 19th, by Miss Elma Smith, late Matron of Colindale Hospital, Hendon, in honour of one of her late probationers, Miss Henrietta Ballard, F.B.C.N., who is the first nurse to receive the University of London Diploma of Nursing in Obstetrics and Gynaecological Nursing.

It gave the "Hendonites" present such great pleasure to see their late Matron so well, and able once again to enjoy life, after her very serious illness of last year, and they all hope that she will not have to leave London for so long again.

The world has been shocked by the terrible loss of life consequent upon the earthquakes in Southern Italy, and by the suffering entailed on many more who are homeless and penniless. Those of us who visited Rome during the anti-tuberculosis Conference in 1928, and saw the deep interest taken by the Duchess of Aosta in all that concerns the health and welfare of the people, are not surprised to learn that Her Royal Highness was quickly on the scene of the disaster, and, in the hospital at Melfi, helped the nuns and nurses to render first aid regardless of her own personal safety.

The members of the National Council of Nurses of Great Britain who, during that Conference, visited the Memorial to the unknown Italian soldier, when their President, and Miss Bushby placed a wreath upon it in their name, were touched when the Duchess, as head of the Italian Red Cross, after performing a similar office came over to the English nurses and thanked their President earnestly and simply for their thought for the Italian soldiers.

The fifth annual report of the Kentucky Frontier Nursing Service, in the work of which so many of our readers are deeply interested, states that "in no other of the five years since the Frontier Nursing Service began has the raising of money been as difficult as in this. But loyal friends stood by and new friends have arisen. The budget, planned before the market crash and allowing for expansion, has been met in full, and money found for new buildings and needed improvements.

In the field, too, everything has been harder this past year than before. Thousands of mountaineers, who sought better opportunities for their families in the towns along the railroads, have lost their jobs and poured back into the mountains, without cows, chickens, pigs or gardens—seeking subsistence in a country where the margin of living is never far above the hunger level. We call them our cornbread line—and their need can be met only by providing employment. This situation makes us beg *now* only the more urgently for the new hospital wing and the new administration building we badly need, both of which would be built mainly by local labour. The budget of \$113,175.00 for the coming year, yet to be raised, allows for operating two new centres, for which the money has already been subscribed, whose construction would employ local labour in other sections of the large territory we serve.

Hunger and pain—both have been our daily companions this past winter. Children were reported to

[previous page](#)

[next page](#)