

NURSING ECHOES.

The Nursing world is pleased to learn that Her Royal Highness Princess Beatrice has made an excellent recovery from her very serious illness, and congratulates itself that the very skilled nursing care she has received was a great factor in this happy result.

We congratulate the members of the Royal British Nurses' Association and the Registered Nurses' Association that their devoted service has helped to restore to health so popular a member of the Royal Family.

Princess Beatrice is now convalescing at Torquay, where she proposes to stay for some time.

As we go to press we learn with pleasure that Miss Susan A. Villiers has been appointed by the Lord Chancellor a Justice of the Peace for the County of Hertford.

The National Gardens Scheme for the benefit of the Queen's Institute of District Nursing came into operation on Wednesday, April 1st, when, by gracious permission of the King, the Gardens at Sandringham were open to the public (admission sixpence) from 11 to 4.30 p.m., an opportunity giving keen delight to many garden lovers.

The General List of the Gardens of England and Wales which will be open at various dates until October 25th may be obtained from The Lady Georgiana Mure, Queen's Institute of District Nursing, 58, Victoria Street, London, S.W.

The fourteenth annual report of the Edith Cavell Homes for Nurses for the year ended June, 1930, states that during that year the home at Haslemere received 154 nurses, that at Windermere 157, that at West Norwood 167, and that at Brighton (opened as an experiment and now closed) 142. The Council are appealing for annual subscriptions, as it is becoming increasingly difficult to obtain support from donations.

All things may be lawful, but all things are not expedient, and those who hold that only the Church takes precedence of Nursing as a sacred calling have been perturbed to see far and wide in the daily Press pictures of hospital nurses in uniform taking a prominent and official part in handling counterfoils from the giant revolving drum at the Dublin Mansion House, in the Irish Hospitals Sweepstakes in the Grand National.

It is most incongruous that nurses who have chosen as their life's work a profession dealing with sickness and suffering, and with life and death, should present themselves before the public as a betting and gambling section of the community.

Why not have invited hospital chaplains to draw the counterfoils from the drum? It would be as seemly if not as picturesque as enlisting the services of the nurses.

District Nurses in Manchester who have lonely patients, or are in contact with over-worked mothers, may be glad to hear of a useful organisation in that city known as the Voluntary Unofficial Aunts (V.U.A.), information concerning which is obtainable from Mrs. E.

W. Hardy, 7, Darby Avenue, West Didsbury, Manchester. A panel is kept of approved workers who are willing to render such useful services as staying in a house in charge of children to enable the parents to go out together for an hour or two; to take children to the doctor, dentist, or hospital; to visit old or feeble people, read to them or play games with them, and so occasionally give relief to the one in charge, to sew or mend garments. The V.U.A. are purely voluntary workers who accept no responsibility, but do their best to be of service, although not prepared to replace ordinary domestic labour or trained nursing. The service is done without subscription or payment of any kind.

The Dental Association of Aberdeen are prepared to apply for an action for interdict against the Aberdeen Education Committee unless they agree to limit the duties of a nurse who has been in the habit of doing fillings of the first teeth of children in which it is claimed she is a skilled operative.

Councillor Duncan expressed the opinion at a meeting of the Committee, that it was a mistake to curtail the duties of the nurses on account of "this nonsense from the Board of Health," and a Resolution was carried by a small majority instructing the nurse to carry on.

Now that dentistry is a Registered Profession we are not surprised that its members object to encroachment upon it by unregistered persons even though they may have acquired a certain amount of empirical skill, and nurses should be the last to undertake professional duties for which they are not qualified.

A very useful vocabulary which, the Editor of *L'Infirmiere Francaise*, Mlle. Chaptal (our International President), writes, will help English readers in using and understanding French and German names for nurses, nursing, hospital work, is being published in that journal, and in view of the forthcoming International Congress of Nurses to be held in Paris in 1933 is to be completed.

English nurses are not as a rule linguists, and this vocabulary will certainly be helpful in explaining French technical terms which are often a puzzle to them.

Nursing work amongst lepers not long since so hopeless, is now quite hopeful, as well as a most interesting branch of nursing. Not only alleviation but prevention and cure come within the scope of a nurse's efforts.

Writing from Nigeria, in *Nurses Near and Far*, a member of the Nurses' Missionary League says:—

On our way to our station we are staying for a time at the Leper Colony belonging to the Church of Scotland. The missionaries' bungalows stand about 400 feet up the bank from the river, and the view from them is wonderful. The Leper Colony lies far down in the valley below. One thousand lepers are there, in all stages of the disease, some very hopeful cases and some very distressing. The organisation of the colony is marvellous, everything in its working is done by the lepers themselves, even to the injections for the disease, under the supervision of the doctor. There are two towns, the men's town and the women's town, separated by a big expanse of vegetation. Each house accommodates two people, and around it is a tiny garden full of flowers, tended by the lepers them-

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