

THE QUEEN'S INSTITUTE OF DISTRICT NURSING.

When the Earl of Athlone presided at the annual meeting of the Queen's Institute of District Nursing at 22, Portman Square, W., on June 26th, a message was received from the Queen expressing Her Majesty's deep interest in the work of the Institute.

Lady Violet Astor presented long-service Badges to the following Superintendents and Nurses who have recently completed 21 years' service with the Institute:—Miss Sarah Ellen Williams, Superintendent, Stockport District Nursing Association; Miss Annie Goodison, Queen's Nurse, Hull D.N.A.; Miss Katherine Mary O'Leary, Queen's Nurse, Maryborough, Ireland, D.N.A.; Miss Ruby Evelyn Radburn, Queen's Nurse, Swanscombe D.N.A., and Miss Hannah Roche, Queen's Nurse, Howth, Ireland D.N.A.

The Report of the Queen's Institute of District Nursing from the Council of the Institute to the Patron, Her Majesty the Queen, for the year 1933, is of particular interest and importance, recording as it does the provision by the National Birthday Trust Fund of offices at 57, Lower Belgrave Street, S.W., for the Headquarters of the Queen's Institute, thus relieving it from any expenditure on rent.

In 1923 there were 2,141 Queen's Nurses; in 1933 there were 3,492. This alone has meant a great increase of work at Headquarters. Further, many new developments—for example, the Pension Scheme, Federated Pensions and the Provident Schemes—have all added to the demands upon the office staff. Also the present extension of housing increases the demand for nurses and the re-organisation of the inspection work.

There was a record number of visitors to the 1,069 gardens in England and Wales, which were opened in connection with the National Garden Scheme, and the sum of £11,106 19s. 9d. was raised for the work carried on by the Queen's Institute and the Nursing Associations in the counties in which gardens were shown. His Majesty the King again graciously allowed the gardens at Sandringham to be opened very frequently during the spring and summer, and the contribution of £672 from the Royal gardens showed how much the public valued this privilege.

The report submitted for the year 1932 on the midwifery cases attended by 949 Queen's Nurses and 2,814 village nurse-midwives shows that over one-ninth of the total births in England and Wales were attended by them with a maternal mortality of 2.1 per 1,000. This figure compares very favourably with the rate for the whole country, which was 4.2 per 1,000.

Statistics have been collected from all Queen's Nurses which give details of the co-operation which exists between Public Health Authorities and District Nursing Associations in the domiciliary nursing of those diseases for which the Local Authorities are specially responsible. Among others, there were 13,470 cases of pneumonia, 3,307 of measles, 4,764 of tuberculosis, 12,925 of diseases in children under five, and the visits paid to all these were no less than 572,626.

During the year the Institute's appeal on behalf of the Florence Nightingale Memorial Foundation (promoted by the Association of Queen's Superintendents) received a generous response, and £524 has been forwarded to the Committee of the Foundation. £387 came from England and Wales, £84 from Ireland, and £53 from Scotland. The aim of the Memorial Foundation is to form an endowment which will provide scholarships for nurses from all countries to receive a year's course of education in Public Health Work or Hospital Administration. Several Queen's Nurses

have already benefited by these scholarships and are doing responsible work.

Lord Athlone in moving the adoption of the annual report and accounts expressed thanks to those who had so kindly allowed their gardens to be opened to the public for the benefit of the Institute, and Sir Harold Boulton in seconding emphasised the low mortality rate shown in the report in cases attended by Queen's Nurses and village nurse-midwives.

Miss Lloyd George, M.P., said that the Queen's Institute had not only raised the standard of nursing in this country but maintained it at a high level for a number of years, and Sir Francis Fremantle, M.P., commenting on the reduction in infantile mortality as compared with the beginning of the century—which showed a saving of the lives of nearly 40,000 infants in a year—said it was an achievement which he believed was due to the nursing profession more than to anything else.

HONOURS FOR NURSES.

The King held an Investiture at Buckingham Palace on the morning of June 26th when, amongst others, the following members of the Nursing Profession were severally introduced into His Majesty's presence, who invested them with the insignia of the respective divisions of the Orders into which they have been admitted.

MOST EXCELLENT ORDER OF THE BRITISH EMPIRE.

CIVIL DIVISION.

D.B.E.

Dame Alicia Lloyd Still, Matron of St. Thomas's Hospital, President, International Council of Nurses.

MILITARY DIVISION.

O.B.E.

Miss Ethel R. Collins, Principal Matron, Queen Alexandra's Imperial Military Nursing Service, The War Office.

ROYAL RED CROSS.

His Majesty also conferred the decoration of the Royal Red Cross (to be an Associate) on Miss Margaret Wilson-Green, Queen Alexandra's Military Nursing Service for India.

At the Investiture on June 27th the following trained nurses were invested by His Majesty.

MOST EXCELLENT ORDER OF THE BRITISH EMPIRE.

CIVIL DIVISION.

M.B.E.

Miss Fannie Cullwick, Matron, Monyhull Mental Deficiency Colony.

Miss Sarah Lambert, County Nursing Superintendent and Inspector of Midwives, Isle of Wight.

Miss Jean Macleod, Newcastle-on-Tyne Mental Hospital.

LEGACIES TO NURSES.

Mr. Washington Merritt Grant Singer, of Norman Court, Salisbury, left £1,000 each to Miss Annie Beattie and Miss Florence Mabel Foyster "with my grateful thanks for their care and attention to me during my illness."

Admiral Sir Douglas Austin Gamble, of Bembridge, Isle of Wight, who left £8,950, after a few bequests to servants, left the residue of his property absolutely to Emma Gregory his housekeeper-nurse.

Sir James Carmichael, K.B.E., of Kingston Hill Place, Kingston, left £500 to Miss Millar, Matron of Bolingbroke Hospital, £200 to Sister Edith Fitches of that hospital, £250 to Nurse Bessie Daniels, Guy's Hospital, and £200 to his nurse, Mary Catton.

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