

a-carolling, were very ready to talk to visitors, to enlarge upon the pleasures they had already enjoyed, and on those which were yet to come.

In Alexandra Ward (always indissolubly connected with the name of Isla Stewart, who was Sister there before being appointed to Matron's posts under the Metropolitan Asylums Board, and later Matron of St. Bartholomew's Hospital, a great protagonist of State Registration of Nurses, and a Founder Member of the International Council of Nurses) one patient with whom we had converse was entranced with her Christmas Stocking, explaining to the interested visitor that she was over fifty years of age, and had never had a Christmas stocking before. And such a stocking!

Out of it there came the cosiest pair of bedroom slippers, which exactly matched a favourite bed-jacket, though no one knew what it was like (well, perhaps Santa Claus did), and in addition to the slippers it brimmed over with pretty and useful things. Every patient in the ward had a similar stocking, though the contents of course were varied to suit the recipient, and if all the stockings gave as much enjoyment as did this one the walls of the ward must have been fairly bulging with happiness. Multiply that happiness by dozens of wards and hundreds, if not thousands of hospitals, and one forms a dim conception of the happiness radiated at this time, and understands why, when nursing staffs go off duty at the end of such a day, tired to the point of exhaustion, they are well content.

The air was tense in "Alexandra" when in the dim distance was heard the sound of carols, and presently there filed into the ward an apparently endless stream of nurses, walking two and two, and at intervals carrying lanterns, until arriving at the far end of the ward they formed a group, whose



Miss Jean I. Gunn, O.B.E., Lady Superintendent, General Hospital, Toronto.

All over the kingdom nurses have been engaged in promoting the happiness of their patients, but we have space only for the typical instance of St. Thomas's Hospital.



Miss Mabel F. Hersey, O.B.E., Superintendent, School of Nursing, Royal Victoria Hospital, Montreal.

rendering of various carols, with clearness and precision, testified to the care with which they had been trained by their choir-mistress. Concluding with that perennial favourite "Good King Wenceslas" they filed out to visit other wards (thirteen in all), the pleasant ceremony concluding in Albert Ward with "God Save the King" and "Auld Lang Syne."

One speculated on the future of that troop of young nurses, going forth from their great training school to all parts of the world, and taking with them its traditions and customs, and bound to it by close associations, and, through membership of the Nightingale Fellowship, still an integral part of its organisation, joyfully returning to it from time to time.

TERRITORIAL ARMY NURSING SERVICE.

The Matron-in-Chief wishes all T.A.N.S. members every happiness in the New Year, and desires to remind those who have not yet sent their enrolment parchments to their Principal Matrons that these are now due.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE INTERNATIONAL CONGRESS OF NURSES.

We are informed by Mlle. Chaptal—President of the International Council of Nurses, 1929-33—that the volumes containing the Proceedings of the International Congress of Nurses, Paris-Brussels, July, 1933, in English, are now ready. They can be obtained from the French Headquarters, 6, rue François Ier, Paris, by sending a postal order or a cheque for 25 *French francs*, in the name of the President of the Association des Infirmières Diplômées de l'Etat Français (postal cheques, 700.01 Paris).

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