

urgent calls, but it was in the interests alike of the patient, the nurse and the Authority that working hours should be reasonable and in keeping with an arduous and difficult profession.

The Hon. Sir Arthur Stanley, writing as Chairman of the Council of the College of Nursing to *The Times*, emphasising the importance of trained nurses in factories, says that "there is an increasing recognition of the need for supervision of the health of the employees in factories and business houses, for in those places where schemes have already been developed the benefit both for employer and employed is apparent. It is not possible, however, for every firm to employ a doctor and a nurse, and therefore greater responsibility is placed on the nurse working alone. The scope of the latter's work is being enlarged, and in addition to the treatment of accidents and minor injuries she is required to advise in a general educational capacity where health is concerned. Where processes involve special risk or strain she may be needed to carry out special treatment or investigation, under medical supervision, for which some knowledge of preventive medicine is required."

Sir Arthur Stanley points out the need for special training for this work, training which the College of Nursing is endeavouring to supply in special courses. "At present the number of nurses participating is small, for the following reasons: (a) the expense involved in taking the course, and (b) the salary offered being unlikely to compensate the nurse for the expenditure on the additional training." He invites offers of bursaries and scholarships to help nurses to take this training.

Mr. C. M. Wilkins, who states that he was Secretary to a hospital in London at the time of Queen Victoria's first Jubilee, pleads in the press for the allotment of seats to see the Coronation procession to such Matrons, Sisters Nurses and probationers as can be spared from their duties in the voluntary London hospitals. At Queen Victoria's Jubilee, he says, his then hospital was honoured by the gift of 12 seats inside the Abbey, and "while such a privilege could not be expected on the present occasion one of the many stands to be erected along the route might be reserved in its entirety for the nursing staffs of our London hospitals." Naturally any nurses would be delighted to enjoy the privilege, but the question would at once arise why should it be restricted to one small section of State Registered Nurses when there are nearly 80,000 whose names are on the Register in England and Wales, and other professional women would, we fear, think that they too should be considered.

The importance of fire drill for hospital nurses was apparent when there was an outbreak of fire at the Rous Memorial Hospital, Newmarket, recently.

The fire started in the stokehold, where some firewood which was drying caught alight. The alarm was given—the hospital staff rushed to their posts and nurses and hospital attendants fought the fire with chemical extinguishers and kept it under control until the arrival of the fire brigade.

None of the patients had to leave the wards, but a number of them got up from their beds and watched the firemen at work from the windows.

The brigade had the fire under control within half an hour, and little damage was done.

With Miss Ethel Johns, of Montreal, as guest-speaker, and the 44 members of the 1936 graduating class of the Victoria Hospital, London, Ontario, as guests of honour, the Alumnae Association of the hospital recently entertained at a most enjoyable dinner-dance, at the London Hunt and Country Club.

Miss Margaret McLaughlin, President, with Miss Johns received the guests and also presided during the after-dinner programme. The decorations in purple and gold effectively carried out the hospital colours.

Mrs. Hedley Smith, O.B.E., proposed the toast to the King and to Miss Mary L. Jacobs fell the honour of proposing the toast to the graduating class to which Miss Lyle Vidt replied.

Miss Johns, who is editor and business manager of *The Canadian Nurse*, was introduced by Miss Mildred Walker and gave an informal and most enjoyable address, speaking especially to the graduates. Miss Hilda Stuart, superintendent of nurses, moved a vote of thanks.

Miss Johns also addressed a meeting at St. Joseph's Hospital largely attended by nurses from all parts of the city, representing many branches of nursing, and including also student nurses from all the city training schools.

Miss Johns told her audience that history had already been made in London by nurses pioneering in new fields. She cited particularly the late Miss Margaret Stanley, for many years superintendent of nurses at Victoria Hospital, and Miss M. L. Jacobs, who has done outstanding work in the psychiatric field.

Miss Johns stressed the value of organisation, particularly the Registered Nurses' Association of Ontario which provides the formal registration of the nurse and also serves as a link with the Canadian Nurses' Association and further still with the international organisation.

The personal benefits for each member included, Miss Johns thought, the honour of being a member of the great guild of nursing. Through it the nurse became a member of the C.N.A. at no additional cost, and of the International Council of Nurses.

These are bodies that do not meet merely to talk and pass resolutions, Miss Johns said. The Canadian Nurses Association, through its national office, acts as a clearing house for the provincial associations in all that requires national action; it forms the important link with the International Council, emphasising the world aspect of nursing, its publication is an open forum for the expression of nurses' opinions from all parts of the country.

#### CATHOLIC NURSES AND STERILISATION.

News comes from Berlin that Catholic nurses have been forbidden by the Church to take any part in sterilisation operations. This was stated at a meeting of Nazi nurses in Cologne.

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