

NURSING ECHOES.

Sister Catherine Black, M.B.E., R.R.C., S.R.N., the senior nurse in attendance on King George in his last illness, and who had the honour to be chosen as one of the four nurses to attend his Majesty in his critical illness in 1928, was subsequently appointed permanently as a member of the staff of the Royal Household, since which time she has accompanied the Royal retinue whenever the Court has been moved from Buckingham Palace.

Sister Black was trained at the London Hospital, E., and from 1914 - 1919 served with Queen Alexandra's Military Nursing Service Reserve.

For her services during his illness in 1928 King George bestowed upon her the Royal Red Cross (1st Class), and in 1930 invested her with the M.B.E.

Sister R. Davies, who also nursed the King in his former illness was trained at the London Hospital. Both are State Registered Nurses, and we are glad that King George, who gave his Royal Assent to the Nurses' Registration Acts, should have had nurses holding this statutory qualification.

The nurses on duty in Westminster Hall during the Lying-in-State were a Sister and a Nurse from the Westminster Hospital, who appreciated the honour done to them and their profession in their selection for this duty.

Thousands of pounds are being expended by and for the well-being of nurses, of which we are constantly being reminded. First, in Portland Place, we daily pass the place where two fine houses having been demolished and the bowels of the earth explored, the foundations of the new Headquarters of the General Nursing Council for England and Wales are, we may hope, being well and truly laid, upon which we presume will arise a stately Official Residence, in which the work of our Governing Body may be conducted for the benefit, not only of the Nursing Profession, but for the body politic. One aspect of this progress is sound, the Registered Nurses whose names are inscribed on the Register are paying the whole cost of providing their own Headquarters,

running no doubt into thousands of pounds. We congratulate the Registered Nurses, and counsel them to steadfastly protect the privileges which self support should secure. When the balance sheet for the lease and erection of our new Headquarters is presented, it should inspire every Registered Nurse with pride that they owe no man anything, and for that reason no man or woman has a right to govern them without consent, as they would do should the one portal to the Register be demolished.



Photo] ["Daily Mirror"]
SISTER CATHERINE BLACK, M.B.E., R.R.C., S.R.N.
Senior Nurse in attendance on the late King.

At the corner of Lambeth Palace Road and Paris Street, S.E., we note the fine new Nurses' Home to be attached to St. Thomas's Hospital is well on the way. This Home is the munificent gift of a Nightingale Nurse—Lady Riddell—and is to be named "Riddell House," in memory of her husband, the late Lord Riddell—described by the President in the *Nightingale Fellowship Journal* as "a great man, a wise leader with wide vision, one who ever pressed forward. May we build into that Home all the past, with its traditions, and a great future. It is for you young Nightingales to take and treasure."

On a fine open site the commodious Nurses' Home to be attached to the new Westminster Hospital facing St. John's Gardens, Horseferry Road, S.W., is taking shape. It is interesting to note that the Westminster Nurses have collected some £3,000 towards its cost.

It is probable, therefore, that in Coronation Year these three new buildings may be on their way to completion, greatly to the progress and happiness of large numbers of the Nursing Profession.

A new nurses' home at Hammersmith Hospital is planned by the Hospitals and Medical Services Committee of the L.C.C. It will contain 304 bedrooms providing a margin for future expansion of the staff, and its lay-out will include a "grasspalte" tennis court. The estimated cost of the building and equipment is £104,600.

The Nursing Staff at St. Bartholomew's Hospital,

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