

NURSING ECHOES.

Her Majesty Queen Mary has been graciously pleased to approve the following appointments as Queen's Nurses: In England 121, in Wales 4, in Scotland 28, in Ireland 10. So the good work goes on, and 163 thoroughly trained and State Registered Nurses have, as Queen's Nurses, been commissioned to care for the sick, and to teach the laws of health throughout Great Britain and Ireland.

Queen Mary has shown an active interest in the nursing world since our last issue. On Thursday, October 14th, she opened Riddell House, the fine New Home for Nurses in connection with St. Thomas's Hospital, built and equipped at the cost of £100,000 by Lady Riddell, as a memorial to her late husband, and also as an expression of her interest in the profession of which she is a member. Lady Riddell was trained in the Nightingale School and has continued her interest in its welfare for many years. The gift of Riddell House, situated in Lambeth Palace Road, will relieve the serious pressure on the quarters for nurses in the main hospital building, and it will also accommodate the preliminary training school for nurses, as in it are provided demonstration class rooms and a model kitchen for the instruction of student nurses. The furniture and special fittings in all the Sisters' and Nurses' bedrooms have been designed to meet the modern requirements for efficiency and comfort. Queen Mary admired the new building. A notable feature in the new House are the beautiful pieces of antique furniture from the personal possessions of the generous donor.

Queen Mary has also paid a visit to the West London Hospital, Hammersmith, and opened the "Silver Jubilee Extension" (which has been so named in obedience to the command of King George V.) and then visited the wards and was shown the excellence of their equipment, and received 88 purses, none of which contained less than £10.

A surprise visit was also paid by Queen Mary to the London Hospital, where she was conducted over the New School of Physical Medicine. The purpose of the school is to train women in physiotherapy. She paid a visit to the wards, and later watched the nurses in their beautiful new swimming bath and inspected a nurse's sitting-room and took tea with the Matron, Miss Littleboy.

The Duchess of Kent, as President of the Elizabeth Garrett Anderson Hospital, recently laid the foundation-stone of the new home to be built for the staff of 80 nurses. After she had inspected a guard of honour of nurses, many presentations were made to the Duchess. The Duchess received purses from a long list of bearers, including many children. After she had declared the stone well and truly laid Bishop Crotty offered the dedicatory prayer.

The estimated cost of the new home is £60,000, towards which £35,400 has been subscribed.

We always expect it, but it does bring a glow of pride and satisfaction to hear of the heroism of our nurses

under fire, and we are indebted to Miss Gladys Stephenson for her graphic description of the result of bombing by Japanese near the Methodist General Hospital, Hankow, and of how splendidly the nurses stood the test. We have great pleasure in publishing Miss Stephenson's letter under the title "Our Foreign Letter" on page 308.

The pitiful distress in China, amongst our own people as well as the Chinese, has aroused a great effort for amelioration. The Lord Mayor's Fund is being very generously supported, and thousands of pounds' worth of remedial agents and comforts have already been dispatched to China; but the horror of the bomb massacres, poison gas and epidemics will, we hope, give European Powers and the U.S.A. the strength of conscientious conviction and courage to bring the war between Japan and China to an end.

We are so tired of conversations—which so often end in smoke!

One of the most wonderful results of the International Council of Nurses is the production of the National Nursing Press. Naturally, the Nurses' Associations speedily realise how impossible it is to make any real progress without their own official organs, which are owned, controlled and edited by the National Association. Thus through this medium the reports of the recent meetings of the Board of Directors and Grand Council, I.C.N., and of the Congress and all its wonders have been carried far and wide throughout the world.

The International Nursing Review, the quarterly publication of the I.C.N., just issued, presents many intimate features not otherwise obtainable and is issued from its new address in London: 51, Palace Street, London, S.W.1. For the information of those who do not know this district, Palace Street runs out of Victoria Street, not far from the station, from which innumerable bus routes emerge.

Work on the "Proceedings" of the 1937 Congress in three languages is now in hand, and copies may be ordered from Headquarters, price 5s. post free. These reports should be secured for library use in Nursing Schools.

Our exchanges from many parts of the world are now to hand containing Congress reports. Canada and the United States have done splendidly. We remember the uphill days when adequate reports of I.C.N. proceedings appeared only in the pioneer *Nursing Record*, (now the *BRITISH JOURNAL OF NURSING*). What a change is here!

All the Dominions and India have their official organs; France, Germany, Belgium, Holland, all the Scandanavian countries, keep us well in touch, and China and Japan realise the value of a professional press.

In order to make the Nursing Service more attractive, the L.C.C. Hospitals Committee recommend an increase of £5 a year to staff nurses, which will bring the rate up to that paid in the counties adjoining London, and an increase of £10 a year to probationer nurses on their promotion to the staff nurse grade.

[previous page](#)

[next page](#)