

NURSING ECHOES.

Her Royal Highness the Princess Royal for many years lived arduously in the public service, until her health suffered from systematic overwork and strain. Recently she has been welcomed by many philanthropic bodies in her renewed efforts for the public good. We publish a charming picture of her recent visit to Acton in support of the Y.W.C.A.

She will receive a warm welcome when she attends the Opening Meeting of the International Congress of Nurses in Westminster on July 19th.

Lovely gardens are again being opened for the benefit of the Queen's Institute of District Nursing, an easy, sweet and flowery way of making money.

The King has granted to Miss May Evans Royal licence and authority to wear the Insignia of the Fifth Class (Civil Division) of the Order of Al Rafidain, conferred on her by the King of Iraq for her services as Senior Nursing Sister to the Iraqi Health Service.

The report of the Ranyard Nurses, the Nursing Branch of the Ranyard Mission, established in 1868, is, as always, interesting reading. The Ranyard Nurses were the outcome of a Mission founded in the year 1857 by the late Mrs. Ranyard in order to supply Bible-women to the poorest and most neglected quarters of London. Nursing attention was soon found to be so urgently needed that the Nursing Branch was founded in 1868. Now the staff consists of about 62 Mission Workers and 101 Nurses. It is a rule of the Society that no Nurse may be accepted for permanent work on the staff unless she holds a three years' certificate from a recognised Training School and is on the State Register. Many of the Nurses hold the Certificate of the Central Midwives Board. Every Nurse enters the Hostel (Ranyard House, 25, Russell Square, W.C.1) on probation for a period of three weeks, during which time her district training begins. If accepted the training continues (in the case of those who have not had district training) for a period of six months, during which time the Nurse resides at the Hostel or elsewhere at the Society's discretion. Every Nurse joining the permanent staff is required to join the Federated Superannuation Scheme.

During the year two new districts, Horn Park and Sydenham II, have been opened up and two half-time Nurses have been supplied to the Minor Ailment Centres at Downham and Greenwich. A half-time Nurse has also been supplied for the Peckham Road Medical Relief Station under the London County Council, a new venture for the Ranyard Mission. The Nurses attended 11,649 cases during the year and paid 328,220 visits.

The expenditure on the Nursing Branch of the Mission is still considerably in excess of its income, but the Report states that the Council are encouraged to hope that this deficit may be substantially reduced owing to the special efforts which are being made in many of the districts to raise the full support of the Nurse or Nurses employed. They express gratitude for the help received from the City Parochial Charities, through the Central Council for District Nursing, the Hospital Sunday Fund, the City Companies, the London County Council and other bodies. This year, for the first time, a grant has been received from King Edward's Fund in recognition of the work of the Nurses for the patients of the Voluntary Hospitals.

We regret to note that the General Superintendent and Hon. Secretary, Miss Irene M. Hett, underwent an operation in December and will not be back at Ranyard House for some time.

Many nurses are interested in the Order of Deaconesses, which some 50 years ago was revived by Mrs. Isabel Gilmore, who spent many years as a Sister at Guy's Hospital. She was the sister of William Morris, who sympathised with her deter-

mination to devote her life to the training of women for church work in the squalid districts in South London. In connection with the jubilee, the Archbishop of Canterbury will address a meeting of women in Battersea Town Hall on Wednesday, June 9th, at 8.15 p.m. The Bishop of Southwark will take the chair. Information about the jubilee and tickets for reserved seats for the meeting may be had from Head Deaconess Mabel Phillips, Gilmore House, S.W.4.

The London County Council is now one of the most powerful municipal bodies in the world. It practically governs London, and in doing so is largely responsible for the standards of health in the Metropolis, and for



The Princess Royal receiving purses from Helen Mitchell, when she visited Acton to open the Acton and District Y.W.C.A.

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