

NURSING IN U.S.A.

Every year we are honoured with an invitation to the Graduation ceremonies at the Johns Hopkins Hospital School of Nursing at Baltimore, U.S.A., and every year we deeply regret inability to attend, and call to mind the few lovely days we spent there in 1892 as the guest of Isabel Hampton, where we met for the first time Lavinia Dock. So clearly is that historic visit impressed upon our memory that we can recall every hour—how the dear ladies were dressed, one in white piqué and one in black merino. Both had lovely sunny hair and sunny smiles and hearts, an endless flow of exhilarating talk, professional ambitions bubbling forth from pointed minds. Delightful days never to be forgotten. Blessed be memory!

And this reminds us of a grievance. For eighteen years our Nurses' Registration Act has been in force—upwards of 86,000 nurses' names have been placed upon its Register—and not one really popular reception of congratulation at attaining their legal status has been offered them! Alas! we are a dull people. Some years ago a Canadian Matron sent us some little snapshots of the Graduation Class at the hospital fortunate enough to have her at its head—and here you see the lady with her bouquet and the sweet young nurses each laden with flowers—poised on the daintiest little feet, as gratified as can be. Having worked faithfully they have just been rewarded with Diplomas at a ceremony, no doubt never to be forgotten.

The Bulletin reports "The Biennial" held at Kansas City, according to an editorial writer, "there never has been a convention here that has been attended by more attractive delegates." Another, in farewell, wrote, "Come again, ladies; our catch string is always out!" Four thousand five hundred and sixty-three nurses registered in addition to 873 students!

Clara Dutton Noyes Scholarships.

Miss Ida Butler, Director of the Nursing Service of the American Red Cross, announced the creation by the American Red Cross of two scholarships to be awarded each year for the next five years, one to an American nurse and one to a nurse from a foreign country, for a year's study under the Florence Nightingale International Foundation, London, England. The scholarships are awarded in memory of Miss Noyes, former

National Director of the Red Cross Nursing Service, who died two years ago.

Saunders Medal.

Bedside nurses—all of them—were honoured this year. The Walter Burns Saunders Memorial Medal, usually awarded to a nurse who has rendered distinguished service in the cause of nursing, was this year presented "to those who have devoted their professional lives to sympathetic and intelligent bedside care." Helen McDonough, chairman of the Private Duty Section of the A.N.A., received the medal on behalf of all nurses so recognised, including general staff nurses, private duty nurses and visiting nurses. Framed replicas of the medal were presented to the presidents of all state nurses' associations, to be placed in state headquarters offices.

The American Nurses' Association.

Major Julia C. Stimson, of New York, was elected President of the American Nurses' Association. Miss Nellie X. Hawkinson, of Illinois, President of the League of Nursing Education, and Miss Grace Ross, Michigan, President of the National League of Nursing Education.

Frontier Nursing Service Field Work.

An interesting pamphlet describing the organisation and supervision of the Field Work of the Kentucky Frontier Nursing Service, Inc., of which Mrs. Mary Breckinridge is Hon. Director, is written by Miss Mary B. Willeford, R.N., Ph.D., Assistant Director. Miss Willeford tells us that the field work of the Frontier Nursing Service is organised on a decentralised basis. No other plan would be feasible in a country where the difficulties of transportation are so acute. The people ordinarily travel by horse or mule, and the usual speed is about four miles an hour. Because of this slow mode of travel, it is necessary for the nurses to be not more than five or six miles from their farthest patients. Therefore the nursing centres are located approximately ten miles apart.

The supervisory and administrative staff consists of the Director and her assistant, a midwifery supervisor, and a hospital superintendent. The Service has its own Medical Director, who has charge of the hospital, and who also answers

the necessary midwifery and sick calls in the field. The surgeon for the hospital lives in a mining town twenty-four miles away on a State highway, and therefore



THE SUPERINTENDENT.



THE GRADUATION CLASS.

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