

## NURSING ECHOES.

In the good old days Merrie England rejoiced and held high festival on Christmas Day; but to wish a Merry Christmas in this year, when so many people are in grief for loved ones lost, especially for the bravest of the brave who go down to the sea in ships—and now sleep silently in deep waters—and for the gay boys, who, lost to sight above the clouds, touch heaven even as they crash to earth—and for those whose deaths on foreign soil—leave for ever heartache and a less radiant sun—is not seemly. A Happy Christmas we may wish, without misapprehension, as true happiness is sensed only from sharing with others the best we have to give of love and beauty—so may a Happy Christmas be yours, dear friends, near and far.



Photo.]

[Photo Illustrations, Scotland.

Her Royal Highness the Duchess of Kent smiling at mother and babe in the Maternity Pavilion, Edinburgh Royal Infirmary.

Her Royal Highness the Princess Louise (Duchess of Argyll), the fourth daughter of Queen Victoria, died on December 3rd, aged 91. She was a Princess of character, beautiful and a real artist, and her statue of her Royal mother in Kensington Gardens is generally recognised as the most lifelike and pleasing statue of Queen Victoria.

The late Princess was recognised as Patroness of Nursing in Scotland, where she took much interest in our work in all its activities.

As a great aunt of His Majesty, the death of the Princess will be sincerely mourned by the Royal family.

Her Majesty Queen Mary has been graciously pleased to approve the appointment of 195 Nurses to be Queen's Nurses, trained in England and Wales, in Scotland and in Ireland.

The Queen's Nurses are universally approved, not only for their skill, but for their fine sense of public duty. It is well to know that so many new appointments have been possible in these difficult times.

Queen Mary has made a generous donation to the maternity hospital for wives of officers of the Royal Navy, the Army, and the Royal Air Force, for which an appeal has been made.

Her Royal Highness the Duchess of Kent paid a visit to the Royal Infirmary, Edinburgh, on November 22nd.

With Lord Provost Steele and the Lady Provost, the Countess of Minto, Harriet Lady Findlay in attendance, and the Matron (Miss E. D. Smaill, O.B.E., A.R.R.C.), she made a tour of the institution and saw

the wonderful work being carried on there; and in the Simpson Memorial Maternity Pavilion (in charge of Miss J. P. Ferlie, M.B.E.), she saw the twins born as she entered the hospital, who are to be named George and Marina.

The Duchess also saw the Women's Maintenance Work Party engaged in making bandages and clothing for the use of the institution.

Her Royal Highness afterwards visited the Florence Nightingale Nurses' Home, which is illustrated on page 295, the arrangements of which for beauty and comfort she greatly admired.

The question of unemployment among nurses was the subject of written answers

given in the House of Commons on November 23rd by the Minister of Health, Mr. Walter Elliot.

Mr. R. Duckworth asked the Minister whether his attention had been called to the large volume of unemployment among nurses, and whether there was any reason at the present time why fully-trained nurses should be suffering from the lack of suitable posts.

Mr. Elliot replied: I have received representations to the effect indicated in the first part of the question. As regards the second part of the question, I understand that some public health and other hospital authorities and some nursing homes have, owing to a reduction in the number of their patients, dispensed with temporary nurses who have hitherto been employed to supplement their regular staff. It may also be that persons or families who might previously have employed private nurses are, for financial or other reasons, not now doing

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