

## ORDER OF THE BRITISH EMPIRE.

## Honours for Midwives.

Miss K. V. B. Coni, Matron, Hull Municipal Maternity Hospital, Deputy President, College of Midwives.

Miss G. M. Snowden, Ch. Matron, Birmingham Municipal Hospital, for services to C.D.; Miss L. M. Booker, Superintendent Health Visitor and Inspector of Midwives, Devon C.C.

Miss I. C. Tappenden, domiciliary midwife, L.C.C., for services to C.D.

## THE NURSES' CHRISTIAN MOVEMENT.

The 40th Anniversary Meetings of the Nurses' Christian Movement, held on May 20th, drew a large number of nurses, the large majority of whom came from the hospital branches; while some had been members for many years. Representatives had come from branches in Manchester, Leicester, Plymouth, Edinburgh and other places; and it was announced that simultaneous meetings were being held in 20 large towns at which members from various hospitals were uniting in thanksgiving for the 40 years' work.

The General Secretary (Miss L. Topping) gave a very encouraging report of the past year's work, remarking on the eager welcome received by her and by the Travelling Secretary, and on the work which many members were doing in making the Movement known in different hospitals. There had been 33 new branches started during the year, and 731 new members.

The missionary aspect of the work was, as usual, well represented. Miss E. Hope Bell and Miss E. C. Mitchell gave vivid accounts of things they had seen in China and Africa respectively; Miss Walton told of the need for recruits in mission hospitals, even in these war days; and two recently accepted volunteers told how they had been led to offer for this work. In an arresting address, BISHOP HEBASLETT described conditions of medical work in Japan and told of his own terrible experiences while a prisoner for several months in Japanese hands.

The need for a spiritual basis for all life and work was emphasised by various speakers.

MISS MACMANUS spoke to the nurses in training of the need for "qualities of mind as well as skill of hands"; and to the trained nurses of the many burdens and problems of these days, for which the only power lay in the words of St. Paul, "I can do all things through Christ Who strengtheneth me."

DR. C. C. CHESTERMAN said that one of the greatest functions of doctors and nurses was to help people not to fear as they passed through the valley of suffering and death; and this could only be done by showing them that God was the great Healer. All medical and nursing work was a glorious ministry when done in co-operation with God.

The BISHOP OF NORWICH spoke of the new meaning which many were finding in these days in the Christian faith, the new realisation that we could not drift into a better world, but could only get new chances when willing to face the sacrifice, and the new hope and courage which were emerging for many.

The BISHOP OF LONDON spoke of the two sides of a nurse's work, the professional (in itself a part of a Christian vocation) and the personal. He said that the value of each human person lay in the fact of his value in the sight of God, and that we should never treat anyone as a thing, but as a person who was as dear to God as ourselves. To do this was only possible in close relationship with God Himself.

Our dear Margaret Breay, S.R.N., now gone to her rest, after a lifetime of devotion to the uplift of the Nursing Profession, was deeply interested in this missionary movement, and was specially gifted in association with the coloured races, with whom she came into touch. Their affection was mutual.

## NURSING ECHOES.

The Queen recently attended a meeting of the Dudley House Committee, whose chairman is Lady Ward, at 39, Charles Street, W. Her Majesty took with her cheques amounting to some £3,350 which had been sent to her by American subscribers as a memorial to the late Mrs. Robert E. Strawbridge, of Philadelphia, and handed them to Lady Ward, whose committee had been invited to choose the form the memorial should take. Lady Ward explained that it had been decided to devote the money to the building of six cottages at the Papworth Village Settlement, near Cambridge, and at her request the Queen presented the cheques direct to a representative of Papworth.

Preliminary plans of the cottages, worked out by Mr. Amyas Connell, A.R.I.B.A., in collaboration with the Papworth authorities, were exhibited, and the Queen then accompanied Lady Ward and the committee on a tour of the Charles Street premises.

When we were young, whenever we met the village idiot, he would at once inform us: "What I want, Miss Ethel, is more money." "Yes, Tom," I would reply, soothingly, "to spend in the pothouse."

Without loss of time, although assistant nurses are not yet registered, an agitation has begun by local authorities for higher salaries for them.

Leicestershire Public Assistance Committee are of opinion that the Rushcliffe scales for assistant nurses are inadequate.

The Committee have adopted the whole of the scales for their nursing staff, but they have also recommended that representation be made to the Ministry of Health, to the Rushcliffe Committee and to the County Councils Association to the effect that the County Council is of opinion that the salaries provided for assistant nurses under the Rushcliffe Report are inadequate and are not appropriate to assistant nurses employed in Public Assistance institutions; and, further, that the scale therefore should be increased to £70 per annum, rising by increments of £5 per annum to £90 per annum, with an addition in all cases of £10 per annum where an assistant nurse possesses a certificate of two years' training as such granted by the local authority.

The County Council have approved the Public Assistance Committee's resolution.

"So, so together we go!"

Decisions have been made by the Hospitals and Medical Services Committee of the London County Council on a number of points arising under the Rushcliffe scales, which are being applied to the Council's nursing staffs.

The Hospitals and Medical Services Committee suggest that in future all student nurses who have not passed the State final examination on completion of their contract should be given the option of extending their contract of service as student nurses for a further period of six months or until the first day of the month following the notification of success at the State final examination, if earlier. Nurses failing to pass the State final examination within the six months' extension will

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