

NURSING ECHOES.

So far we have seen no Press publicity given to the wonderful example and devotion to duty throughout the war by Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth. Her services have excelled those of any royal lady in the world or, indeed, of any woman in touch with Thrones. We have no doubt that some special recognition of her selfless devotion in support of the King and the people will be associated with her name, and as she has taken special interest in the devoted service of our nurses in their relief of suffering and restoration to health of the sick and wounded, it is to be hoped Registered Nurses may be associated with any public expression of appreciation and gratitude the country may offer to Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth.

League News, the official organ of the League of St. Bartholomew's Hospital Nurses, the first of those groups of nurses, founded by the late Miss Isla Stewart, Matron, provides us with a most excellent issue, No. 2, 1945 to the Editor of which, Miss G. Le Geyt, we are all greatly indebted.

The membership of the League is now upwards of 1,800, and forms an influential group in the National Council of Nurses, to which it is affiliated.

Its finances are most flourishing, the Helen Baines Memorial Fund amounting to £1,742 13s. 7d., to remain untouched until it has reached £2,000. As the subscriptions to perpetuate the memory of Helen Baines poured in without pressure, there is little doubt the memory of her unique and devoted service to St. Bartholomew's Hospital will be kept green.

Thirty-four members have become happy mothers during the year.

Twenty-three members have married—many to men serving their country.

Death has claimed five members, the majority in ripe old age—after lives spent in the service of humanity and the sick.

League News contains a most historic "Short account of an Ancient Foundation: St. Bartholomew's Hospital, Rochester, Kent," by the Matron, Miss J. C. Goudie; this is probably the oldest hospital in the world, and the first voluntary hospital for the sick to be established in this country.

The present hospital buildings were erected on the land originally given by Bishop Gundulf, opened in 1863, reconstructed under a scheme of the Charity Commissioners and later brought up to date between 1927 and 1938.

The late Matron, Miss Maud Pote-Hunt, A.R.R.C., a Founder Member of the Nurses' League of Rahere's Hospital in London, held the post of Matron from 1910 until 1928. . . . It was through her earlier years of reorganisation of the wards and system of nurse-training that sound preparation had been made for the great emergency, so that again the hospital served in readiness as scheduled for E.M.S. calls during the last European war now victoriously terminated. Every page of *League News* is of interest to those of us who remember



HER MAJESTY THE QUEEN.

the preliminary consultations from 1893 with the great Founder of the first League of Nurses—Isla Stewart—at rest these 35 years.

We hope the exceedingly valuable article by Dr. Ernest C. Hadley which appears on page six in this issue will receive careful study by readers, trained and in training.

We fear the majority of Governors will hesitate about reverting to the three years' term of training, as a financial loss. But we believe far fewer Registered Nurses would resign and give up Nursing as their profession if they were not overstrained before their final examination.

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