

### NURSING ECHOES.

We note that the Ministry of Health is holding a Public Inquiry at the Brighton Borough Sanatorium into allegations regarding the food and conditions in general at the Sanatorium. We think it would be a good move if the Ministry continued these very necessary inquiries into conditions in all Sanatoria throughout the country, for, until conditions improve in some of them, patients with tuberculosis will never receive the very necessary nursing care which their condition warrants.

We have just received what is the last Report of the Bristol and Somerset Board, as administrative body for the Evelyn Mary Eden Benevolent Fund.

Early in 1946 it was decided by the Board that it could no longer continue and it was accordingly dissolved in April, 1946. In June, 1946, the Trustees appointed the Benevolent Committee of the Royal College of Midwives as its Administrative body. This Committee, which has a trained almoner as its Hon. Secretary, has kindly consented to help any former member of the National Union of Trained Nurses on the same friendly and personal lines. Any subscriptions may be sent to Miss Pye at the Royal College of Midwives, 57, Lower Belgrave Street, London, S.W.1, and all applications for assistance should be addressed to the Hon. Secretary, Benevolent Fund Committee at the same address.

Miss Kennedy's many years of detailed work on behalf of the N.U.T.N. gave her a special place in the thoughts and gratitude of all who have been connected with the Evelyn Mary Eden Memorial Benevolent Fund.

The following have been appointed Trustees in place of Miss Eden, Miss Rimmer, and Miss Kennedy whose resignations are deeply regretted.

Miss DEANE, Vice-Chairman of Council of the Royal College of Midwives. Miss RAE, Member of Council of the Royal College of Midwives. Miss E. W. PYE, Chairman of Finance Committee of the Royal College of Midwives.

It seems hardly necessary to remind nurses that Miss Eden in about 1903 started in Somerset the Nurses' Social Union which later became the N.U.T.N. Probably only those who knew Misses Eden and Platt in those days have any idea of the amount of skilled work, time and money they put into this N.S.U.

On October 9th a Conference was held at Friends' House, London, at which representatives of Local Authorities of England and Wales and Northern Ireland were present.

The Chairman of the Conference, Lord Woolton, P.C., C.H., D.L., LL.D., in his opening remarks, said that from some statistics he found that upwards of 1,500 children die annually from Bovine Tuberculosis, due to infected milk; and altogether we are losing 5,000 people per year with "Food Poisoning," and this is on the increase.

Lord Woolton hoped the Press might be persuaded to use the slogan "Always wash your hands after using W.C."; that would really be rendering a communal

service. He thought another slogan "No dirty fingers in the people's food" might also be very useful.

Sir William Savage, M.D., B.Sc., D.P.H., gave a brief résumé of the problems of the field of Infection from milk, animals, chemical poison, e.g., antimony from lemonade in metal vessels, chromium from bad refrigeration, arsenic from apple spraying, etc., etc.

In the course of an address Dr. G. S. Wilson, Director of Public Health Laboratories Service, suggested some special precautions should be enforced:

Importance to control premises preparing food.

Washing facilities to be adjacent to W.C.

Plenty of fresh water for vegetables and lettuce available.

Washing-up facilities, adequate tanks and drying cloths, hot dryers if possible for cutlery and crockery.

Reporting of illness of cooks and washers up.

Cooked food not to be kept about too long in hot kitchens but stored in cold storage after being prepared.

Pig Bins: adequate lids and frequent emptying to avoid attracting flies and rodents.

Food, most easily contaminated: Vegetables, fats, milk, icecream, layer cakes, trifles, jellies, duck eggs, shellfish.

We feel sure that nurses will be in full agreement with these suggestions for the benefit of the health of the community.

We are able to announce that the architect of the Princess Tsahai Memorial Hospital in Addis Ababa, Mr. Selby J. Clewer, A.R.I.B.A., reports that the Hospital building is now complete, and awaits only the interior equipment, which is being purchased and dispatched from Britain.

The sanitary ware has now arrived in Ethiopia, and also an operation table presented by Messrs. Allen & Hanburys. The electrical equipment, which ranges from lifts, lighting, heating, ventilating, sterilising, cooking and laundry apparatus to X-rays, is on order. The funds raised here and in Addis Ababa cover the cost of the building and all the above items.

An urgent drive is now being made to complete the sum needed to pay for ward furniture, surgical instruments and medical requirements.

Offers to assist in all ways should be addressed to the Honorary Secretary, at 3, Charteris Road, Woodford Green, Essex.

Princess Ashraf, sister of the Shah of Persia, who during her stay in this country made a special study of hospitals and local authority health services, has asked the Ministry of Health to help her in establishing a nurses' training school and in equipping hospitals in her own country.

During a visit to the Ministry the Princess discussed the development plans she has in mind. The Ministry agreed to assist her in getting together a small team of experts to go out to Persia and help in establishing a nurses' training school at the hospital in Teheran.

The Princess is also hoping to obtain British equipment and supplies.

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