

## New Zealand Nurses' Memorial Fund

We have received the annual report of the fund for the year ending 31st March, 1929.

The number of annuitants has increased from fifteen to eighteen, and temporary help has also been given to nurses who from sickness and other reasons have needed assistance. The fund at the end of the financial year stood at £23,926.

During the year £1,050 had been received in donations and legacies, and the year before a legacy of £1,000 was received, so that the fund seems to be recognised as a worthy object.

It is very encouraging that the Government subsidy which was given for a year or so when the fund was first started, has now been promised again, though on not quite so generous a scale. Still it will materially aid the allotment of annui-

ties and grants by adding 10/- to the £1 of each disbursement.

The legacies received during the year are £500 from the estate of the late Hunter Shaw, through Mr. E. F. Warren; £250 from the estate of the late Miss S. Charles; £100 from the Lilian Mitchell Fund, these two through the Perpetual Trustees, Estate and Agency Co. To donation from the Dunedin Savings Bank of £200, and contributions from the Nurses' Association, and from the nurses at Hanmer, as already reported.

Nurses, as they go about in private nursing or visiting, can make the fund known, and lead to donations being given.

In our last issue we referred to the loss of the treasurer, Mr. Chamberlain, who had done such good work for the fund for twelve years.

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## Mental Defectives Amendment Act, 1928

An interesting development of the Special Board set up under the above Act, is the appointment of an officer who will do the home investigation, and follow up work, which is being established for the care of retarded and defective children under the direction of a qualified psychiatrist.

The first clinic is to be started in Wellington, and the duties of the officer include the visiting and interviewing of parents, and watching over the attendance of the children at the clinics and their developments. No doubt, in so doing, many cases will be discovered who need the special treatment and tuition.

It is gratifying to learn that the first appointment has been given to a nurse, Mrs. Dick, formerly Sister Mary Hobbs, trained at the Wellington Hospital.

Mrs. Dick served in England during the war, but married while on service.

Lately she has been engaged in Child Welfare Work, under the Education Department. Her experience as a nurse and also as a mother, fit her very well for the position, which is a new one in New Zealand, and which will probably in the near future be followed by similar appointments in other centres.

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