

against the action of the Committee in begging on their behalf and without their consent at a time like this, when our prisoners are still abroad and starving, and our Hospitals at home still filled with the wounded and the dying.

I think the readers of THE BRITISH JOURNAL OF NURSING may like to hear what occurred at the interview.

I informed the secretary that the Nurses, on whose behalf I spoke, were grieved and distressed to think that our prisoners and wounded should come home and find (at a solemn time of thankfulness like the present) Society women revelling to raise money for Nurses, who object at all times to being held up as objects for patronage and charity and especially at the present juncture.

The Secretary disagreed with me.

She considered it was just the time when the officers were returning from the front to have an entertainment for them, and that a very influential section of the nursing profession approved of the scheme, including Miss Sidney Browne, who must be a good judge.

I replied that Miss Sidney Browne was only an official *under orders* and not an independent Nurse and that the Nurses whose opinion I voiced were members of organised Societies of Nurses who were free women.

Another official then appeared from behind a screen, and expatiated on the support the College of Nursing received, &c., &c.

I had, however, uttered my protest and fulfilled my mission, so I wished them Good Morning with this parting remark:

"I think you will get into trouble before long if you continue to beg for a *National Fund*, as your Fund is only registered to provide Funds for the members of The College of Nursing, Ltd."

One of the ladies replied:

"Oh, if you choose to stay *outside* the movement we cannot help that."

I came away thoughtful but triumphant!

Nurses are to be coerced and bribed by promises and doles to enter the College of Nursing, Ltd., and many do so and hug their chains!

And what of the independent spirits who remain outside?

There is one possession left to them, and it is a

"Pearl without price."

Liberty of conscience!

Freedom to fight for the right!

And we have just seen in this worldwide conflict Might collapse before Right.

A FRIEND OF NURSES.

WEDDING BELLS.

Members of the Staff of the Registered Nurses' Society will congratulate Miss J. Thomasina Grant, one of their number, on her approaching marriage to Lieut. J. E. Reid, 18th Essex Regt.

The wedding will take place on December 4th at St. Luke's Church, West Norwood. We wish bride and bridegroom every happiness.

AN IMPUDENT GAMBLE.

We are glad to learn that the Lottery started by the Dublin Stock Exchange in the name of "The Nation's Tribute to Nurses," whereby those who bought tickets stood to win large money prizes amounting to £1,000 before any benefit to the Nurses accrued has been stopped—we hope by the Committee of the Fund, although we hear the police played a part in this discreditable affair.

The "Nation's Nurses" are the sport of every notoriety hunting climber; but when it comes to exploiting, not only their professional work, but hard cash, it is time to call a halt.

An Irish Nurse writes: "The lottery has been stopped! and there are great lamentations in certain quarters. It was a scandalous business. Those of us who required accurate information concerning 'the gamble' could not get it. Anyway it has been squashed. The Nation's Tribute has brought in roughly £10,000. Trustees are to be appointed to invest the money. Irishmen and women also will see it is kept in Ireland. A Committee will be formed for its distribution. It is rumoured that now war is over the College of Nursing, Ltd., is to start a great campaign to induce Irish nurses to join it. It may succeed in Ulster, but will only arouse contention and ill-feeling in other parts of Ireland, as the country is much more disturbed than the papers say, and Irish nurses mean to have professional Home Rule as the doctors have, and will fight for it. For English Matrons to attempt to govern Irish nurses from London is doomed to failure, and shows a lamentable lack of tact, perception and knowledge of history."

PRIZES FOR NURSES.

Viscountess Allendale distributed the prizes and certificates to the probationer nurses at the Poor Law Infirmary, Newcastle-on-Tyne. The prizes were awarded by the Heath Trust to successful nurses in each of their first, second and third year of probation.

The following were the successful nurses:—Certificates for three years' training: Nurses Herdman, Brinton, Turnbull, Blyth, Spenceley, Armstrong, Forrest, McKinley, Redpath, Hall, McReady, Davidson. Heath Prizes: Third year. 1, McKinley; 2, Davidson; 3, Hall. Second year.—1, Harrison; 2, Lowerson; 3, Lawson. First year.—1, Gordon; 2, Connelly; 3, Park.

A Tribute Sale in aid of the Elizabeth Garrett Anderson Hospital (the New Hospital for Women) will be held on November 21st, 22nd, and 23rd at the Grafton Galleries, Grafton Street, W., with the object of raising funds towards the completion of the endowment of the various beds already started under the Garrett Anderson Memorial Scheme. Subscriptions will be gratefully received by the Secretary, Miss Imogen H. Murphy, at the Hospital, 144, Euston Road, N.W. 1.

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