

cation between those engaged in Nursing at home and abroad. We have readers in every part of the world, and would ask them, one and all, to help each other, and to aid their calling, by utilising this journal as the medium of diffusing, far and wide, Nursing knowledge which will be of value, or news which will be of interest, to others.

Our profession is, above all things, practical, and yet few Nurses whose wide experience must have taught them methods of incalculable benefit to the sick have had the opportunity of imparting their knowledge to others. It is hoped that the NURSING RECORD will not only supply this deficiency, but that it will thereby exercise a valuable educational influence, for it is proposed to set aside space, in these columns, for the description of nursing details, and for valuable and novel practical hints which will thus be added to the common store of nursing knowledge. Most Nurses could contribute to this column with advantage to their fellow-workers, and it is hoped that many will avail themselves of this means of "Comparing Notes" with others as to their methods and experiences.

In like manner, the effort will be made to elicit the views of Hospital Matrons upon the many and difficult questions of professional politics, which, at present, or in the future, appear ripe for discussion. For example, it is plain that the whole curriculum of a Nurse's training must, before long, be placed upon a definite and intelligible basis. So large and vital a matter requires the earnest thought and concentrated wisdom of all who are acquainted with the difficulties and drawbacks, and the total want of uniformity, of the present system, and with the consequent detriment to everyone concerned. The columns, in future, to be devoted to "Matrons in Council," will, it is hoped, furnish an independent platform on which all sections will be represented, and varying views freely expressed. By such interchange of ideas, by frank criticism of suggestions, and, by the combined views of many minds, the difficult problems with which the profession is, at present, faced, may, in due course, arrive at the best solution.

The ever active danger of professionalism is its inherent tendency to narrow and restrict its followers to the small circle of their special work; and none are more affected than Nurses by the absorbing demands which their daily duties make upon them. At the same time, it should be remembered that it is as important for the mind as it is for the body, that it should receive adequate rest and change, and the Nurse owes it as a duty to her patients as well as to herself, that her knowledge, her interests, and her understanding, shall be broadened as much as possible. Her influence for good upon the sick will be largely dependent upon her ability to soothe or interest their minds, and it will be

impossible for her to do this unless she can discuss with intelligence matters extraneous to her profession. Many Nurses, especially when engaged in private houses, find it difficult to keep acquainted with current events, and still more impossible to keep abreast with professional news and advances. Here again, it is hoped that this journal will prove its practical utility to Nurses, because, on the one hand, the news of the week will be given in a condensed form; and, on the other hand, articles by experts on Art and Literature, or Science and the Drama, as well as on practical Nursing subjects, will appear in each issue.

The Sections of "Echoes" dealing with Nursing news, of "Reflections" comprising the details of Institution work, and the others organized and conducted by our distinguished predecessor, will be continued and their scope extended by the kind assistance of correspondents in various parts of the United Kingdom, and our readers are cordially invited to send any news of interest with which they may become acquainted for publication in those pages.

A new feature will be a column devoted to the work of Nursing in the British Colonies, India, and elsewhere, which will be given in the form of "Our Foreign Letter," and will, we have reason to believe, be supplied to us by distinguished members of the Nursing profession in these outlying provinces of the Empire.

So far as Nursing Societies are concerned, our columns will be open freely to all, without distinction, and to all who strive to assist Nurses, we will, without hesitation, accord full sympathy and hearty recognition. It is possible that, during this next year, the NURSING RECORD may be required to take an important part in connection with a new organization, but space shall, if possible, always be found for older Institutions. And it is, perhaps, needless to say that its most cordial support will always be given to, and its utmost power will always be at the service of, the Chartered Corporation—the Royal British Nurses' Association.

For the next few weeks it is intended to devote the space, which will thereafter be occupied by a series of lectures on Nursing subjects, to articles on the Royal British Nurses' Association from various points of view, these being most auspiciously commenced to-day by one from Her Royal Highness Princess CHRISTIAN, which will doubtless be read with the deepest interest by all trained Nurses.

Such, in brief, is the programme and future policy of the NURSING RECORD. In the fulfilment of this work, the active co-operation and assistance of all trained Nurses, and of all interested in the work and development of the Nursing profession, is sought for, and will be gratefully welcomed, by

ETHEL G. FENWICK.

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