

Nursing Politics.

DR. BEZLY THORNE, whose policy has ruined the Royal British Nurses' Association, for all practical professional purposes, proposed at the late Annual meeting, that all the life members anterior to 1893, should again pay their life subscriptions, and grandiloquently offered his guinea towards the depleted funds of the R. B. N. A.!

WE must remind Dr. Bezly Thorne that the founders of the British Nurses' Association paid a life subscription of *five guineas*, so that to be in order he should augment his cheque. But no doubt now that nearly every Matron of any importance—who worked for and made it a professional power—has been insulted off the Association, he will consider it cheap at the price.

It now remains to be seen if Dr. Bezly Thorne can sow dissension in our training schools, and thus depreciate the rightful authority of the Matrons inside the hospital, by the same indefensible and intolerable methods by which he has gained his ends in the R.B.N.A. The Matrons of our training schools have nothing to gain from his patronage—in return for which, he can rely upon "Chartered" and "Middlesex" votes—and it is just possible that they may not appreciate the position of being dictated to by the combination of Dr. Bezly Thorne and the dissentient members of their staffs. The danger is a real one, and they will do well to avoid it.

CHARITABLE aid, when it carries with it an assumption of autocratic power, is extremely demoralising, and Mr. Langton would have been more kind—because more just—if he had insisted upon the nurses supporting their own Association, as they did in the good old independent days, when they governed it, without twaddle and fulsome patronage. No woman worth her salt will submit to professional pauperisation, and it will be well for the Treasurer of the Royal British Nurses' Association to realise this fact.

FROM the official accounts sent to the press, the Annual Meeting of the R. B. N. A. was a veritable "butter" party, and Miss Wedgwood, Miss de Pledge, Dr. Bezly Thorne and Mr. Fardon, had an oleaginous time. The ladies seem to have brought their eulogies carefully prepared in their pockets, and the male potentates who grace the platform at the Nurses' Meetings, purred audibly during their recital.

SOME day, perhaps, the transcendent virtues and talents of these gentlemen may receive recognition from their own professional brethren.

In the meantime they accept the carefully prepared pæons of praise at the hands of their humble hand-maidens with evident satisfaction. Verily, the average Anglo-Saxon lacks all sense of the ridiculous!

Uniforms for Greece.

HER Royal Highness the Crown Princess of Greece has expressed a wish that the uniform to be worn by the Sisters of the Greek Military Nursing Service shall be precisely the same in every detail as that worn during the late war by the sisters of the *Daily Chronicle* National Fund, so that the neat blue and red costumes will be seen once more in Athens.

The Nursing Staff of the Children's Hospital are to wear a uniform of exactly the same pattern, to be relieved by white instead of red, which are the Greek National colours. The uniforms will include a dark blue hat, with brim trimmed either with a blue and red or blue and white band, to be worn in summer instead of a bonnet; the extreme glare of the sun in the "White City" makes this precaution quite necessary.

Messrs. Debenham and Freebody, of Wigmore Street, have been commissioned to make the entire outfits, so that the order is certain to be executed in a thoroughly satisfactory manner.

Appointments.

MATRONS.

MISS JESSIE SOUTHWELL has been appointed Matron of the Westminster Hospital Home and Training School. Miss Southwell was trained and certificated at St. Bartholomew's Hospital, after which she acted for a short time as Night Superintendent and Assistant Matron at the Chelsea Hospital for Women. She was appointed last year as Matron of the Hospital for Women and Children, Bristol, which position she at present holds.

MISS M. S. MACARTHUR has been appointed Matron of the Cornwall County Asylum, Bodmin. Miss Macarthur was trained at Saughton Hall, Gorgie, Edinburgh, and afterward superintended the nursing at Wonford House, Exeter.

SUPERINTENDENT NURSE.

MISS C. COGLAN has been appointed Superintendent Nurse of the Aston Manor Nursing Institution. Miss Coghlan was trained at the Royal Hospital, Portsmouth, and has acted as Superintendent of the Children's Hospital, Shanklin, and the Hampstead Nursing Association.

[previous page](#)

[next page](#)