

"NURSING RECORD" BENEVOLENT FUND.

"BEAR YE ONE ANOTHER'S BURDENS."

OBJECT.—To assist, by the united efforts of the readers of the *Nursing Record*, Trained Nurses who may be in need of temporary or permanent aid.

Proposition I.—That subscriptions shall be received to a Benevolent Fund, from which disbursements shall be made to relieve cases urgently needing temporary assistance. A statement of all such receipts and expenditure to be published in the *Record*.

II.—That for such cases of distress as need permanent assistance, the following procedure shall be adopted. Every annual subscriber to this journal shall have the right to send to the Editor the particulars of any such case, with which they may be personally acquainted, and if after full investigation it be found suitable, the name and particulars shall be entered upon a list. The *Nursing Record* will ask its readers to work unitedly for only one case at a time, and when that one, in the manner considered most suitable, is permanently provided for, the list of cases as above obtained, shall be published in the journal. Each copy of that issue shall contain a slip of paper, so that each purchaser of that number will be able to vote for one of the cases on this list by writing her name thereon, and forwarding it by post to the Editor. The following issue of the journal shall contain the number of votes polled for each case, and that one which receives the largest number of proxies, will be adopted as the next case to be relieved by the Fund; and the readers of this journal will then be advised as to the method which seems most suitable for helping that particular case, and asked to unite in securing its speedy success.

CASE I.

Mrs. Sarah Duyck, aged 47, a widow. Has broken her leg so badly, that she will probably be a cripple for the rest of her life. Dislocated one shoulder some years ago, so that she is even unable to use her crutches for long at a time.

Proposed Method of Assistance.—To obtain an annuity of £20 a year from the British Home for Incurables. To do this at least 1,000 votes must be procured from subscribers to the Institution. Lists of subscribers can be obtained by sending eight stamps to the offices, 73, Cheapside, E.C.

Will every reader of this journal do what she or he can to obtain votes for this sad case—to assist, in however small a measure, to bear another's burden? Such help will be gratefully welcomed by the Editor, *Nursing Record*, St. Dunstan's House, Fetter Lane, London, E.C., and all subscriptions, &c., will be duly acknowledged.

CORRESPONDENCE.

(Notes, Queries, &c.)

* * * WHILST CORDIALLY INVITING COMMUNICATIONS UPON ALL SUBJECTS FOR THESE COLUMNS, WE WISH IT TO BE DISTINCTLY UNDERSTOOD THAT WE DO NOT IN ANY WAY HOLD OURSELVES RESPONSIBLE FOR THE OPINIONS EXPRESSED BY CORRESPONDENTS.

To the Editor of "*The Nursing Record*."

Sir,—It is a pleasure to me to write (so pardon me) a few words of thanks for your consistent kindness to those Nurses who, desiring organization and professional status, have become members of the British Nurses' Association, in order by continued effort to obtain these benefits for themselves. Women, as you know, shrink from personal abuse, wrangling or combat in the public press, and some find your courageous support a relief after the malignant attacks made upon us by an Editor less generous than yourself. Your *truthful* and plain spoken leaders are a weekly stimulus.

I was lucky enough to be present at our Annual Meeting at Cambridge on the 31st ult., and to be near enough to hear through the applause the inspiring words spoken by Mrs. Bedford Fenwick when proposing a vote of thanks to Professor Humphry for presiding. It would be well for all members of the B.N.A. to lay them to heart during this period of opposition. "Let us ask ourselves," she said, "the questions, Are our principles founded on justice and on truth, and are our motives pure? If we can answer these questions conscientiously in the affirmative we have nothing to fear." We *have* fixed our colours to the mast. There let them wave, not as a signal of defiance, but as a sign of faith in and courage to defend the good cause we have so much at heart.—I am, &c.,

AN IRISHWOMAN:

To the Editor of "*The Nursing Record*."

Sir,—My Nurses—several of whom were present at the Cambridge Meeting of the British Nurses' Association—are most anxious that it should be known how greatly interested they were in the proceedings, and how very much they enjoyed the whole thing. Meeting so many old friends was of course the greatest pleasure. We owe much gratitude to the organisers of so successful an undertaking.—Yours truly,

A COUNTRY MATRON.

REPLIES TO CORRESPONDENTS.

Sister Singleton.—Try Maw, Son & Thompson, Aldersgate Street, E.C.

Mrs. Hamilton.—The difficulty you mention is very great, and it is quite impossible for an unprofessional person to distinguish. The authorities of St. Bartholomew's, Guy's, Middlesex, and the Royal Free Hospitals take the precaution to train their Nurses for three years before certifying that they are efficient,

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