

Annotations.

A BROAD OUTLOOK.

We desire to draw the attention of our readers to a letter which appears in another column from Dr. Berry, Chairman of the Royal Albert Edward Infirmary, Wigan. In the course of the Registration campaign we have received many letters on the subject dealing with the question from many points of view. It is characteristic of the difficulties which we shall have to encounter when we get seriously to work to draft a Bill, that so many experienced nurses regard the question entirely from their own point of view, instead of considering the greatest good of the greatest number. For instance, the Matron of a special hospital will say, "I do not approve of State Registration because it will increase my difficulty in obtaining nurses." But she may change her post, and with it her point of view as to the *principle* of State Registration! The broad-minded common sense of Dr. Berry's letter is a welcome contrast to such an attitude. We plead for a broad outlook in regard to the question. Once the principle is recognised as desirable, the various interests involved can receive due consideration.

PEACE DAY.

The daily papers of recent years have brimmed over with reports of battle, murder, and sudden and violent deaths. In South Africa the clang of arms have resounded for long, and all the miseries attendant on war have followed in their train, while at home the nation, more especially the middle and artisan classes, are feeling the pinch of the consequent increased taxation. In Venezuela we have carried our demands by an appeal to force, and at the present time, in Macedonia, there is reason to fear that atrocities, such as thrilled the whole civilised world in Bulgaria and Armenia within recent years, are now being enacted.

Those who long for the day when national differences between civilised nations will be settled by an appeal to an international tribunal instead of to brute force, when might is right, and the nation which has the longest purse wins in the end, learn with a sense of relief that there are still amongst us some who have other and higher standards, and that on Saturday last the members of Peace and Arbitration Societies met in the studio of Mr. Felix Moscheles at Chelsea to celebrate the eighth anniversary of Peace Day.

Amongst the speakers on this interesting occasion were Mr. Leonard Courtney, Dr. Clifford, Sir Wilfrid Lawson, Lord Monkswell, Mrs. W. P. Byles, and Mrs. Montefiore.

Mrs. Byles spoke against the arrogant and cruel temper at present manifesting itself in nations.

A resolution was passed calling on peace-loving citizens to reinforce the sentiment which called the Hague Conference into existence, and to hasten the time when an international tribunal would do for a united world what national tribunals do for separate countries.

Surely every member of the nursing profession, a profession pledged to bring healing to all nations, and which, more than any other body of women, is able to estimate the horrors of war, must be in sympathy with such a resolution. There is enough sickness, and sorrow, and suffering in the world without adding to them the wounds and disease caused by an appeal to brute force and to elemental passions which it should be the aim of civilisation to keep in check.

THE KING'S HOSPITAL FUND.

The Prince of Wales presided on Tuesday last, at York House, St. James's, at the annual meeting of the General Council of King Edward's Hospital Fund for London. The Treasurer, Lord Rothschild, submitted the account of receipts and expenditure, and reported that during the year the Fund had received £604,802, £28,729 being annual subscriptions, and £400,000 the value of capital given by Lord Strathcona and Lord Mountstephen. He moved the adoption of the accounts submitted. The Lord Mayor, in seconding the motion, said the Fund gave the necessary imprimatur to those institutions which gained their support from appeals to the public and stopped the stream of charity from flowing to institutions which could not prove to the satisfaction of the managers of the Fund that they were deserving of public support.

The Prince of Wales, in supporting the motion, said that the accounts of the Fund had shown steady progress, but this year showed more than a tenfold increase. The motion having been carried unanimously, His Royal Highness then moved the adoption of the report of the General Council read by Sir Savile Crossley, together with that of the Organising Committee read by Lord Duncannon. These were unanimously adopted.

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