

lighted to see so many present. His Grace said he was sure he was fulfilling the desire of all present in assuring these devoted women that both they and the country in general warmly appreciated their earnest and self-sacrificing labours.

The Duke then appealed for funds to carry on the work, and in this connection read the following letter from the Right. Honble. A. J. Balfour, M.P. :—

I am very sorry I cannot be present at your great banquet in aid of the Queen's nurses. Next to competent medical advice, competent nursing is the most pressing necessity for the sick, and any institution which brings such nursing within reach of the poor does something material to diminish human suffering. I wish you all success, and beg to enclose a small donation.

The Hon. J. L. Griffiths, Consul-General of the United States of America, supported the resolution in a sympathetic speech, and said that there was no stronger tie between two countries than the common claim on their sympathy and help. Nurses therefore helped to abolish discord, for nations having as a mutual aim the alleviation of suffering were not easily separated by flamboyant statements. There was no more useful or honourable profession than that of the trained nurse. She was one of the most significant economic factors in our present-day civilization and a transforming influence in the home; she was a powerful factor in reducing infantile mortality, and taught young mothers how to rear strong, healthy, virile boys and girls.

The Hon. Harry Lawson, M.P., also supported the motion.

A cordial vote of thanks to the Chairman and the Hosts and Hostesses was then proposed by Viscount Goschen, Chairman of the Council of the Institute, who referred to the immense strides made by medicine and surgery, making it incumbent on the Nursing Profession to advance and make themselves more efficient in order to meet their greater responsibilities.

Mr. Harold Boulton, Hon. Treasurer, and Mr. D. F. Pennant, Chairman of the Executive Committee, supported the motion.

The Duke of Portland, responding, announced that the total amount of contributions received on behalf of the Institute amounted to £2,929.

During dinner the music was supplied by the String Band of the City of London Yeomanry, under the direction of Bandmaster J. Wilson, by the kind permission of Lieut.-Col. G. J. Scott, D.S.O., and the officers.

M. B.

THE TRAINED WOMEN NURSES' FRIENDLY SOCIETY.

During the past week lively interest has been evinced in the above Society, and many nurses have informed Miss Mollett that they intend to join as soon as it is approved by the Commissioners. Miss Mollett has had a very busy week, and has every hope of making this self-governing Society of professional nurses satisfactory. As soon as the many applications already received can be formally accepted, a meeting will be held for the election of officers and committee by the members. The Act provides for self-government, although it can be evaded, and it is this principle of management the provisional committee are determined to emphasise. Care will be taken that the financial help shall be of a thoroughly reliable and disinterested character.

THE APPROVAL OF SOCIETIES.

We have received the following, says the *Times*, from the National Health Insurance Commission (England) :—

The Commissioners desire to correct a misunderstanding which appears to exist in many parts of the country. No society need suffer in membership or otherwise by reason of the fact that it is not approved by July 15th. A society may be approved at any time. The Commissioners are daily receiving fresh applications for approval, which must be dealt with in order, and provided a contributor has a society to which he can hand in his card on or before October 15th, he will not suffer any loss or harm by the fact that the society of his choice was not approved on July 15th.

Thus it will be seen that all nurses wishing to join the Trained Women Nurses' Friendly Society should get their cards from the Post Office by July 15th, so that they can be stamped and in order by the time (at an early date, we hope) when the Society is approved. Anyway, no need to rush into unsuitable societies, as October 15th is the date by which a choice must be made.

LEAGUE NEWS.

The summer meeting of the Hendon Branch of the Central London Sick Asylum Nurses' League was held on Thursday, July 4th.

The members of this League are fortunate in being connected with an institution having extensive grounds, and the month being July, tea on the lawn had been contemplated, but the

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