

of ladies engaged in the teaching profession. In aid of the hospital the Teachers' League organised a pastoral fête, which was held on Saturday at Warrigal, Dulwich Village, and was largely and influentially attended. The opening ceremony was performed by Muriel Viscountess Helmsley, and Miss Chadburn, the surgeon of the hospital, presided. The fête had many attractive features and was a thorough success.

At a very successful garden party given at Kingston House, Clapham, in aid of the South London Hospital for Women it was reported that Lord Kitchener had given a striking tribute to the work done in Egypt by women doctors, who had gone out there and trained the native women in matters affecting diseases of women and children. He had said that it was quite impossible to give an adequate idea of the work done in a year alone. "The best thing I can say," he added, "is that they saved the lives of 5,000 little babies." The Bishop of Kingston said that the wonderful genius shown by women in regard to medicine should be applied to the case of their sisters in suffering.

#### NATIONAL UNION OF TRAINED NURSES.

The Liverpool Branch held its first meeting at "Alscott," Aigburth, on Thursday, the 9th, by the invitation of Mr. and Mrs. Rowe. The members were received in the garden by Miss Rowe and the President (Miss Jolley, Matron of the Royal Southern Hospital), and after tea all gathered in the drawing-room, where Miss Higson delivered an interesting and inspiring address on rescue work.

The President, opening the meeting with words of welcome, spoke of how the National Union of Trained Nurses was rapidly finding its way into many of our largest and most important cities, and members of every branch testified to its helpfulness. Its watchword was "Progress and Co-operation," or rather "Co-operation and Progress," for without co-operation progress was impossible, and in these days it was imperative to band together for the success of our work and the good of the community. She begged those present to emphatically deny various erroneous impressions that were afloat, among others, that this was of the nature of a trades union. Trades unions aimed only at bettering the conditions of the workers whereas the members of the National Union of Trained Nurses aimed at making themselves better fitted for their work. It must also be clearly understood that the National Union of Trained Nurses was entirely unsectarian and unpolitical. A short time ago it was stated in a paper that some opposed the National Union of Trained Nurses on the supposition that it was simply a union to further the ideas of those wishing to advocate State Registration. This mistaken idea had, no doubt, arisen from the fact that State Registration, being one of the great questions of

the day, had been discussed by many of the branches. The committee of the Liverpool Branch (fifteen in number) was composed of quite three-quarters either anti-registrationists or undecided, but broad-minded people, and, as in other places, they would from time to time discuss both sides of all questions concerning the interests of the nursing profession. The most opposed admitted State Registration was bound to come, and it had been suggested after the Bill passed its second reading the National Union of Trained Nurses should be prepared to draft amendments to it. The National Union of Trained Nurses was absolutely non-party, its aim being to promote efficiency and to keep up ideals. In Liverpool there was every encouragement to put their best into their work, for the kindness and generosity of many influential people in and around Liverpool had been greatly manifest of late by the ready and sympathetic response to appeals for funds to start a nurses' club, with reading room and library, £700 out of the £1,000 required having already been collected, and it was hoped to be able to open in October.

Mr. and Mrs. Rowe were warmly thanked for their kind hospitality.

#### TRUE CO-OPERATION.

Trained nurses who wish to see the Nursing Profession placed by an Act of Parliament upon a sound educational basis, and who wish to help to maintain high standards of conduct in its ranks, should join the Society for State Registration of Trained Nurses. There is no ambiguity about its policy. It stands firmly for sound legal organization of the nursing profession by Act of Parliament, and we think that each nurse who desires the benefits such legislation will alone procure, should come out and do her share of the hard work, and practice the self-denial financial support entails. To realise "that State Registration is bound to come" and yet to stand aside whilst others win it is by no means a commendable policy for any self-respecting body of women workers. To all nurses our advice is *don't shirk*. Carping criticism of the successful work of your colleagues is a poor substitute for their honest endeavour. To stand aside whilst others do their public duty, and reap where others have sown, cannot be claimed as the mainspring of either the ideals or practice of that great protagonist Florence Nightingale, or of her disciple Agnes Jones.

As the National Union of Trained Nurses has never at any time done anything to promote State Registration, the statement that it was formed for the purpose was evidently a purposely misleading statement of the anti-registration press.

But we are pleased to note that wherever members of the Union meet together to consider this question, of such vital importance to the welfare of the profession, they are convinced of its necessity, and support it as they did at Leeds and Bath.

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