

Education of Nurses," attempted to deprive them of both personal and professional liberty—a situation which might equally result under the proposed Nursing College Scheme as at present projected, even if its promoters do not intend it.

The cost of circularising so large a number of members is very considerable, but thanks to the generosity of warm friends of the cause, the President has received a sufficient sum to cover it. To Miss A. Hulme and Miss B. Kent the special thanks of the Council are due, as each has most generously sent a cheque for £5. Just home from the United States of America, where they had ample proof of the immense value of State Registration in co-ordinating nursing education, and raising the profession generally, "they feel like spending their last penny" in opposing any scheme sprung upon the profession at home, which they fear is calculated to prevent for years to come, the consummation of the aspirations of the supporters of State Registration, just as it is within their grasp.

That this new inchoate Scheme should have been launched when so many of our best nurses and medical champions are away, working heart and soul, both at home and abroad, for our dear country, and our sick and wounded men, is absolutely indefensible—and the few left free to consider it must redouble their energies in so doing, and permit nothing but duty to prevent their attending the meeting called to give the rank and file an opportunity of considering their own affairs.

WHO IS RESPONSIBLE?

In reply to a letter from the Hon. Secretary of the National Council of Trained Nurses asking if the Joint War Committee were responsible for the Nursing College Scheme, she has received the following information:—

Joint War Committee,
83, Pall Mall, S.W.,

January 26th, 1916.

MADAM,—With reference to your letter of the 20th inst., and to my reply of the 21st inst., Mr. Stanley has asked me to inform you that the members of the Joint War Committee have approved of his carrying on the negotiations in connection with the proposed College of Nursing, reserving to themselves the right to decide at a later stage whether they will associate themselves definitely with the scheme, and if so, to what extent. Also the Committee approve the holding at 83, Pall Mall of such meetings as may be necessary in the preliminary stages.

Yours faithfully,

GEOFFREY SAWYER,
Secretary.

NURSING AND THE WAR.

We have pleasure in publishing this week the portraits of three of the recent recipients of the Royal Red Cross (First Class) in the Territorial Force Nursing Service.

Miss Janet A. Sheppard, R.R.C., is the Principal Matron of the 4th Northern General Hospital, Lincoln, and Matron of the Lincoln County Hospital. Miss Sheppard was trained at King's College Hospital, and before her appointment to her present position was Matron of the Mount Vernon Hospital, Hampstead.

Miss Edith Holden, R.R.C., was trained at St. Bartholomew's Hospital, London, and was Assistant Matron at the Chelsea Infirmary before her appointment as Matron of the Richmond, Whitworth and Hardwicke Hospitals, Dublin, from which she was called up for duty at the 3rd London General Hospital (T.F.).

Miss C. A. Tait McKay, Matron of the 4th Southern General Hospital, Plymouth, since August 11th, 1914, joined the Territorial Force Nursing Service (4th Southern Unit) in 1911 as Sister, and was appointed Matron in August, 1912. Miss McKay was trained at Guy's Hospital, after a year's maternity training at the Plaistow Maternity Charity, and subsequently had six months' training under Queen Victoria's Jubilee Institute. She is a certified midwife, and holds the massage certificate of the I.S.T.M. and the certificate of the Royal Sanitary Institute as a Sanitary Inspector. She was County Superintendent of Nurses under Q.V.J.I., and Inspector of Midwives, under the Cornwall County Council from 1912 to 1914, and was elected a member of the Cornwall County Insurance Committee, the Medical Committee, the Sanatorium Committee, and the Maternity Benefit Committee. She is also a member of the Matrons' Council of Great Britain and Ireland, the Society for State Registration of Trained Nurses, the National Union of Trained Nurses, and the Midwives Institute.

The total amount received to date for the Queen Alexandra Relief Fund for War Nurses exceeds £10,790. Applications are being dealt with every week, and nurses in need of help should apply to the Honorary Secretary, 15, Buckingham Street, Strand.

Hospital Committees and Boards of Guardians are naturally pleased that the nurses trained in the institutions they control earn good reports when on active service. We agree, however, with "Red Brassard" that the Matrons and Superintendent Nurses must share this reflected glory when he draws attention to the fact in the press that to Miss Helen Pirie, the highly qualified Nurse Superintendent of Eastville Infirmary, Bristol, individual and public acknowledgment should be rendered for the continued success of the nurses trained by her, on duty in the Near East.

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