is an invalid, was rescued by his nurses and servants. Some valuable paintings, plate, &c., were removed to a place of safety by the splendid efforts of wounded soldiers.

We thoroughly agree with the South African Nursing Record in its opinion that each Dominion should be self-training in so far as its professional nurses are concerned, and agree that an article in a widely read ladies' paper in South Africa is calculated to have harmful results if those women intending to train take The paper in question states in effect that while there are good training schools in South Africa, a really satisfactory training is only to be had in the big hospitals at home, and recommends that intending probationers should go overseas whenever possible. This is very unpatriotic; every woman who loves the land of her birth should give it of her best, so that its status and prosperity should be ever on the increase. If nursing standards need twitching up in South Africa, we all know they need it in the old country. Let us all go forward, and make the nursing of the sick the best we know throughout the Empire. Let us all claim legal status from our Parliaments, try to attain the highest standards, and adopt a system of reciprocity, so that the title of "Registered Nurse" will carry with it honourable recognition in the homeland and overseas.

There is agitation in the Transvaal Provincial Council for an eight-hour day for nurses, who in some instances are overworked, but the nurses themselves are averse to it, and consider it unworkable. The opinion has been expressed that instead of spending £50,000 to £60,000 a year to put the change in operation, the sum could be advantageously utilised by increasing the existing scale of salaries. The nurses cannot make anything like adequate provision out of the salaries paid to them. They do not want less hours, but more money. As a matter of fact, in most hospitals in the S.A. Union nurses are not working more than eight hours (seven days a week).

INFANT WELFARE.

Miss Katharine S. Macqueen, Principal of the Royal College of St. Katharine, Bromley Hall, Brunswick Road, Poplar, E., notifies in the press that the Chapter of the Royal College of St. Katharine have decided, in conjunction with King's College for Women (University of London), to provide special training, extending over three years, for infant welfare workers. The course includes instruction in sanitation, hygiene,

chemistry, physiology, and social economics, in so far as they affect infant welfare work, practical experience in health visiting and at infant consultation centres, nursing children in hospital, and midwifery training. The Royal Hospital of St. Katharine was established by Queen Matilda in 1148, as a religious foundation, and has always been under the protection and patronage of successive Queens of England. Her Majesty Queen Alexandra recently approved a scheme whereby part of the revenues have been made available for infant welfare work in Poplar in co-operation with the medical officer of health. Miss Macqueen will be glad to give any further information to those who are intending to qualify themselves in infant welfare work.

A NATIONAL DEMAND.

The tragic death of Lord Kitchener has given voice to the feelings of people high and low that the most dangerous enemies in our midst are those who have become naturalised and therefore, as Lord Beresford says, "are in a position to pose as friends."

At last mass meetings are being held to warn the Government of this feeling. The following resolution, proposed by Lady Violet Greville at Hampton Court on Sunday, was carried unanimously: "That this meeting demands that all persons of enemy origin shall be rigorously excluded from all military areas and from Government employment; and that all Germans, naturalised or unnaturalised, be interned forthwith, including those who have been released from internment; and that the British Empire Union convey this resolution to the Government."

A great demonstration, under the auspices of the British Empire Union, in Hyde Park, on the same date, carried with enthusiasm a similar resolution. General Sir Hugh McCalmont, who presided at one of the platforms, complained of the apathy of the Government in allowing 23,000 enemy aliens to remain at liberty in the country. It was highly probable that Lord Kitchener's death was brought about by German spies. There were people in high places of German nationality, and it was disgraceful that they should be at liberty.

THE STORY OF A RED CROSS UNIT.

A book by Mr. James Berry, F.R.C.S., and Mrs. Berry, Mr. W. Lyon Blease and other members of the party, entitled "The Story of a Red Cross Unit in Serbia," will shortly be published by Messrs. J. & A. Churchill. The Crown Prince of Serbia has given his photograph for reproduction, and has allowed the volume to be dedicated to him. The book deals with the recent history and the aims of the Serbs, as well as with the exciting travelling and other experiences of the mission, the establishing of hospitals, sanitation, and the treatment of a severe epidemic of typhus. The volume is illustrated by photographs.

previous page next page