

SCOTTISH NURSES' ASSOCIATION.

The annual meeting of the Scottish Nurses' Association will be held in the Masonic Hall, 100, West Regent Street, Glasgow, on Thursday, November 2nd, 1916, at 3.30 p.m.

Mrs. Strong, the President, will be in the chair. The meeting will be addressed by Miss Violetta Thurstan on her work with the Red Cross in Belgium and Russia, and by Dr. McGregor Robertson on "The Present Position of the Nurses' Registration Bill and the Attitude of the College of Nursing, Ltd."

Three important points are on the Business Agenda, for consideration by the members, namely:—

1. Alteration in constitution to admit of federation with similar organisations.
2. Provision of badge for fully trained members.
3. Establishment of a Nurses' Club.

Applications for tickets of admission must be lodged with Miss M. Russell Smith, Secretary, 18, Berkeley Terrace, Glasgow, W., on or before October 30th, 1916. Tea will be served at the close of the business.

A NEW PROFESSIONAL EDITOR.

Wherever nurses are organised it is essential to their welfare that they should have an organ through which their views can be voiced, and that it should be professionally controlled. We therefore congratulate the management of *The Canadian Nurse* on having the paper for their "very own" and on the appointment—which we have already chronicled—of Miss Helen Randal as its editor, in succession to Miss Bella Crosby, whose good work in this connection is so well known. It is with pleasure that we publish Miss Randal's portrait, and wish her success in her new undertaking.

Sister E. Thacker, who was trained at the General Hospital, Wolverhampton, and has recently been awarded the Royal Red Cross for her services at Dover Military Hospital, has been presented by the Brownhills Women's Effort Committee with an illuminated address and case of Treasury notes; also with a brooch of pearls and diamonds in the form of a Staffordshire knot. She is a member of an old Brownhills family.

A NURSE'S CLAIM TO A LEGACY.

Re MARIAN TRAVERS, DECEASED—HURMSON v. CARR.

This was a summons by the plaintiff to determine the question whether on the true construction of the will of Marian Travers, deceased, the plaintiff was entitled to a legacy of £115 14s., or of any other amount, under a bequest in the following words: "And to each of my servants a further sum equal to their respective wages for one year."

By her will, dated July 24th, 1907, the testatrix, after making certain pecuniary bequests to certain named servants if they were in her service at the time of her death, gave and bequeathed to each of her servants a further sum equal to their respective wages for one year. On January 17th, 1916, the plaintiff was engaged to attend the testatrix as a hospital and mental nurse. She began work on January 22nd, at a salary of two guineas a week. The testatrix died on February 3rd. The plaintiff claimed the sum of £115 14s., being one year's wages.

Mr. Justice Eve—before whom the case was tried—said that the question was whether by the context the testatrix had indicated any intention to include any persons except those who might be her servants at the time of her death. She gave pecuniary gifts to various named servants; but the difficulty was that she went on to give a further sum equal to a year's wages "to each of my servants." He (his Lordship) thought that this was in the nature of an additional legacy to

servants. It involved finding an original legacy to an individual. He must treat the legacy as a gift to those servants who were named in the will. The plaintiff was, in fact, a servant, but she was not named in the will, and accordingly she did not benefit.

This appears to us most extraordinary reasoning—but, alas! the vagaries of British law are a byword. It appears that a trained nurse is a servant, and yet cannot participate in domestic perks. We think the nurse had no claim to a legacy, as she was not engaged as a domestic subject to the laws which govern the engagement and discharge of such. Until we get registration, it is evident that a trained nurse is neither "fish, nor flesh, nor good red herring."



MISS HELEN RANDAL.
The New Editor of *The Canadian Nurse*.

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