

to the best all-round nurse at the Final Examinations, a proposal at once acceded to by the Treasurer, Sir Sydney Waterlow, and the Almoners. The Clothworkers' Company generously give these Medals, which have proved a great incentive to high attainment.

NURSING ECHOES.

An appeal is being widely made in the Press for funds to establish "the Edith Cavell Homes of Rest for Nurses," and a representative Council has been formed with this purpose, with Lieut.-Colonel Sir Richard Temple, Bart., as Chairman, and Mr. Wallace Braby as Hon. Secretary. The Society is registered under the above title under the War Charities Act, 1916, with offices at 25, Victoria Street, London, S.W. Miss Florence M. Scott Cavell is a member of the Committee.

The *raison d'être* of the appeal is that the object is one which Miss Edith Cavell had long cherished a hope of furthering. The present appeal is for £30,000, to raise a fund for the permanent endowment of a freehold house at Coombe Head, near Haslemere, which will deal with the needs of about 100 nurses annually, and which has been offered as a gift on condition that a permanent endowment is raised. It is believed that £30,000 will suffice to convert the building to its new uses and to provide £1,000 for its annual maintenance. It is hoped that in time similar homes may be established throughout the British Empire.

"L. E. A." writes to the *Daily Telegraph* to ask if massage work is saving the country a considerable sum in pensions and gratuities to the wounded, and if so, is it fair that massage workers should be paid as little as £1 2s. 6d. per week (4s. 6d. more than assistant cooks), with board and lodging, and given thirty to forty cases daily to treat. The writer says:—This is being done in many military hospitals, and the wounded are the chief sufferers. A hospital of 1,500 beds has three masseuses, and a paralysed man, in bed for eight months, has an average massage treatment of twenty minutes every alternate day; a severe knee injury is treated for seven minutes, and so on. Moreover, the system of pay is so low that experienced massage workers often refuse to accept it, and in many instances give their services free of charge, in which event the wounded are not getting the best, for a masseuse with a private practice only gives her spare time and her surplus energy to the only patients who really matter at present.

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF TRAINED MASSEUSES AND MASSEURS, LTD.

The following statement has been sent to us for publication by Miss Louie Hordern the Hon. Secretary of the National Association of Trained Masseuses and Masseurs, Ltd., 15, Piccadilly, Manchester:—

"We would like to draw the attention of nurses and all those interested in massage to the work done by the National Association of Trained Masseuses and Masseurs, which has its headquarters at 15, Piccadilly, Manchester, since its incorporation nearly five years ago.

"This Association was formed to provide efficient training colleges and an examining centre in the North of England.

"The founders and patrons, who are doctors, matrons and qualified masseuses of long experience, were desirous of raising the status of massage, and to this end they made a six months' training compulsory for all students; also, as up to this time, no special qualifications were necessary for teachers, a two years' probation was insisted upon. During these two years the candidates for teaching are under supervision, so that efficiency may be insured after the candidate has passed the teachers' examination.

"The colleges are frequently visited by members of the directorate, and thus a high standard of training is maintained.

"Examinations of the N.A.T.M. are held quarterly, conducted by doctors and other qualified examiners, and the success of the Association proves how much it is needed.

"It is an impossibility for the examinations all over the country to be dealt with from one centre.

"Many of the members of the Association have done splendid work for the soldiers in military and Red Cross hospitals. As so many of these workers were unable to give their services without remuneration, it was decided, at a Directors' meeting, that the War Office be asked under what conditions these members would be entitled to receive remuneration. The Association was then referred to the Almeric Paget Massage Corps; and after nine months' correspondence between the N.A.T.M. and the A.P.M.C., the members of the former were refused recognition, without reason.

"As the standard of work done by the N.A.T.M. is as high as any in the country, and as the Association more than complied with all the requirements of the A.P.M.C., the injustice is too great to be allowed to pass; and the members and Directors are convinced that if the facts of the case were known to the Advisory Committee of the A.P.M.C. and others, this injustice would at once be redressed. It is utterly impossible, during this time of heavy pressure, for the massage in Lancashire and the North to be adequately dealt with from London. The local control of all massage done in military hospitals in these districts is quite necessary, if any degree of efficiency is to be attained."

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