

recently, much to her disappointment, with the boot in a somewhat damaged condition, but she was comforted to learn that it was not owing to any defect in its construction, as the patient admitted he had been dancing in it all the night before. The boots are covered with leather (from gifts of old motor coats), stitched, soled, and heeled by this clever lady.

They are made with an adjustable foot-piece, which enables the foot to be screwed up to the proper angle. They have proved such a comfort that, owing to the men refusing to part with them at night, she has invented a light canvas night boot. We suppose dancing pumps will follow.

Another department is in charge of Mrs. Sannyer Atkin. Here are the padded wooden and flexible metal splints. It is her proud boast that hers is a department of constant progress, and that almost every week some new development is achieved both in the comfort and efficacy of the various splints. For instance, our old friend the Macintyre is improved almost out of recognition. It is now fitted with wooden screws, owing to the difficulty of obtaining metal and labour. But Mrs. Sannyer Atkin is not content with improving, she has invented several most scientific and comfortable splints, noticeably a flexible jaw splint, and a splint which can be adjusted to any angle, and which for want of a better name she calls a "Limb Straightener." We have no space to comment further on the various ingenious splints in this department, but we should advise all nurses who have opportunity to pay a visit to this Depot.

We must mention briefly only the limb baths, which are made of papier-mâché like the splints, and like them are perfectly waterproof. We should like to be allowed to compliment these ladies on their remarkable and splendid contribution to the needs of the wounded.

H. H.

### JOINT WAR COMMITTEE.

The Report of the Joint Finance Committee of the British Red Cross Society and the Order of St. John of Jerusalem for the year ended October 20th, 1916, is an interesting document, published at 83, Pall Mall, S.W., price 1s. It is very satisfactory that the Committee are able to report that while they have spent over £1,800,000 in the past year, they have received a sum so much greater that they have in hand a balance sufficient to meet the estimated expenses during the current year; but, having regard to probable liabilities on the declaration of Peace, when donations will probably cease, the reserves cannot, the Committee state, be regarded as excessive.

We greatly regret that, for lack of space, we are unable to publish this week replies to questions concerning the Constitution of the proposed Royal British College of Nursing sent to us by Irish nurses. They will appear next week.

### THE SOCIETY FOR THE STATE REGISTRATION OF TRAINED NURSES.

A Meeting of the Executive Committee was held at 431, Oxford Street, on Saturday, the 17th inst. After the election of members the President, Mrs. Bedford Fenwick, made a report on the political situation in so far as their Bill (Central Committee) was concerned. As the Chancellor of the Exchequer, the Right Hon. A. Bonar Law had elected with the support of the House of Commons, to take all the time of the House for Government business, and that therefore no private member's Bill could be introduced this Session, Dr. Chapple would be unable to bring in the Nurses' Registration Bill. The question was, would the Government bring in a Bill or not?

After discussion the Committee decided on its policy in connection with the question of Nurses' Registration, the President having reminded the meeting that to secure a Bill for this purpose was the sole object for which the Society was formed, and for which it had worked so enthusiastically for fifteen years, during which time it had drafted and had introduced into the House of Commons the First Nurses' Registration Bill—had its Bill passed by the House of Lords, and educated the public and the Legislature all over the country; in spite of keen opposition and press misrepresentation; a fine record of which every member might be proud—and largely due to the influence of THE BRITISH JOURNAL OF NURSING which alone voiced the Nurses' point of view in support of State Registration throughout the controversy.

#### ATTACK ON THE SOCIETY BY MISS SPARSHOTT.

In this connection the President brought to the notice of the Committee the attack made by Miss Sparshott, Matron of the Royal Infirmary, Manchester, and a member of the Council of the College of Nursing, on the self-governing Societies of Trained Nurses grouped in the Central Committee for the State Registration of Nurses, and those affiliated in the National Council of Trained Nurses of Great Britain and Ireland, at a meeting of the N.U.T.N. held at the Royal Infirmary, Manchester, on the 10th inst. Miss Sparshott stated that "the National Council of Trained Nurses in its depth meant opposition to the College . . . that the National Union had joined itself on to a group of Societies which have declared war on the College. The two really alive Societies in the group the Scottish Registration Society and the Royal British Nurses' Association have both passed resolutions showing their dissatisfaction with the action of the Central Committee yet the Union knowing this state of affairs joined itself on to this group of societies. I think the National Union by joining this group has acted very much like a small child they cannot get their own way therefore they sulk." Miss Sparshott said further

[previous page](#)

[next page](#)