

## CARE OF THE WOUNDED.

News has reached the Red Cross headquarters, 83, Pall Mall, S.W., that the river hospital ship *Nabha* has reached Basra, ready for service with the British Forces in Mesopotamia during the hot weather, having successfully made the passage from Bombay under her own power. This shallow-draught vessel was specially built for service on the Tigris by the British Red Cross Society and the Order of St. John, the cost of building and fitting being met from a donation sent to the United Provinces India Fund by the Maharajah of Nabha, whose name she bears.

The accommodation for the sick and wounded, which includes a fully-equipped operating room was designed under the advice and supervision of Sir Frederick Treves. The *Nabha* has a capacity for carrying 60 cot cases and a large number of sitting cases, and among other equipment there is an ice-making plant, capable of turning out 2 tons of ice every 24 hours.

Red Cross motor launches are now working right up the 550 miles of the River Tigris as far as Baghdad, where an advanced Red Cross Stores Depôt, established within a few days of the British occupation, is doing good work, about 200 tons of stores having been arranged to go forward every fortnight.

"France's Day," July 14th, will be observed throughout the British Empire as a tribute to our gallant Ally.

## THE SOCIETY FOR STATE REGISTRATION.

A meeting of the Committee at which important business will be transacted will be held on June 29th. Members are urged to attend at 431, Oxford Street, London, W., at 5 p.m.

### FOR A JUST BILL.

The President of the Society for the State Registration of Trained Nurses acknowledges with sincere thanks the following donations: "Miss E. Pell Smith, £5 5s.; The National Union of Trained Nurses, £5; Major Chapple, M.P., M.D., £2 2s.; Miss Jentie Paterson, £2 2s.; R. A. McEwen Haslam, Esq., £2 2s. (per Miss Conway); An Annual Subscriber, £2; Miss F. Sleigh, £1 1s.; Mrs. Turnbull, £1 1s.; Mrs. Preston, £1; A Friend, 10s. 6d.; Miss J. W. Davies, 10s.; Miss Hayes, 10s.; Miss Hurlston, 10s.; Miss M. Lord, 10s.; Miss A. M. Bushby, 10s.; Mrs. Hambledon, 5s.; Sister G. R. Bond, R.R.C., 5s.; Miss J. H. Macdonald, R.N.S., 5s.; Miss A. Warren, R.N.S., 5s.; A. S., Hendon League, 4s. 8d.; Miss Rimmer, 3s.; Miss M. Byard, 2s. 6d.; Miss J. W. Towers, 2s. 6d.; Miss Flora Morrison, 2s. 6d.; Mrs. Fairburn, 2s. 6d.; Miss K. Roberts, N.U.T.N., 2s.; Miss Marsters, 2s.; Miss E. A. Johnston, 1s.

## THE R.B.N.A. AND STATE REGISTRATION.

The Annual Meeting of the Royal British Nurses' Association was held at 11, Chandos Street, W., on June 15th. Princess Christian presided.

The Annual Report referred to the proposed amalgamation under a Supplemental Charter with the College of Nursing, Ltd., but no announcement was made that the Privy Council had yet granted the new Charter, which as we have pointed out before, deprives the nurse members of privileges they enjoy under the original Charter, so that the constant use of the title Royal British College of Nursing is quite out of order.

The following statement appears in the Report:—

### STATE REGISTRATION.

"Throughout the year there have been several meetings of the Central Committee for the State Registration of Trained Nurses, in connection with negotiations which were entered into with a view to coming to an agreement with the College of Nursing upon a Bill for the State Registration of Trained Nurses. It is, in the opinion of the Executive Committee, regrettable, that these negotiations were brought abruptly to a termination by the Central Committee when a point had been reached at which we appeared to be well within reach of an agreement upon a united Bill for State Registration. Such a measure was never more needed than at the present time, and we consider that, but for the action of the Central Committee in thus breaking off negotiations, we should before long have attained it."

This paragraph needs a little attention.

Whatever in this connection may be the opinion of the Executive Committee of the R.B.N.A. its Hon. Officers are in part responsible, as they have accepted office on the College Council or are supporting the College policy. The negotiations were broken off by the Central Committee because the College Council broke its agreement as to the constitution of the Provisional Council set up in the Bill, depriving the nurses of direct representation, and refused to reconsider the demand of the Central Committee that it should keep its bond, which is set up in black and white in one draft of the Bill. The Central Committee is composed of honourable people, pledged to the members of the constituent societies which they represent to incorporate certain fundamental principles in the Bill. The College representatives agreed to include these principles—and then repudiated the agreement. This conduct of business may satisfy the Executive Committee of the R.B.N.A. but it does not satisfy the Central Committee. The last sentence of the paragraph quoted is encouraging. We gather from it that Parliament will not sanction an Employers Bill to control the Nursing Profession, without the consent of the workers. We can hardly expect it to do so in these times when the rights of the workers are

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