

NURSING ECHOES.

The interests of babies and young children boarded out for reward cannot be too closely safeguarded, and a preliminary is the registration of those taking charge of them, as provided under the Children Act. At Blackburn recently a clogger, aged 22, was summoned, at the instance of the Poor Law Guardians, for receiving for reward two children without being registered for that purpose.

Mrs. H. Whitehead, the nurse appointed under the Act to visit the homes of children nursed for reward, said the defendant lived in a house which had two bedrooms. Besides the man and his wife there were two sons, aged

Here are two little Italian "mothers," with their bambinos swathed like the Christ Child in an Italian crib at Christmas. The child on the right might have posed for a Botticelli picture, and, in spite of her mournful eyes, the heritage from some forgotten forbear, the child on the left is probably a happy, merry little street girl.

We regret to learn that Miss Mary Ard Mackenzie, B.A., R.N., Chief Superintendent of the Victorian Order of Nurses of Canada, has resigned that position, especially at this time, when, from the Report of the Governors for 1916, we gather it is not improbable that an attempt will be made to lower nursing

standards by the introduction of irregularly trained women sent out from England. Miss Ard Mackenzie's report proves how wonderfully the work has been carried on during the past year, in spite of the war, and warns the laity, who control the Order, how disastrous a policy of depreciation would be. She writes:—

"In view of the many temptations in more or less pronounced forms to accept lower standards for their nurses, I cannot refrain on this occasion from sounding a note of warning to the Governors of the Order, who are the chosen guardians of the high standards set nearly twenty years ago, and maintained during these years, 'as a first necessity for all district nursing.' The Order is known at home and abroad by those standards, and it has influenced, in no small degree, other countries in fixing their



LITTLE ITALIAN "MOTHERS" AND BAMBINOS.

23 and 24, and four young children, including the two in respect of whom the proceedings were taken. The defendant, who pleaded ignorance, was fined 10s. in each case, the Chairman of the Bench informing him that he was liable to a fine of £25. Anyone who has reason to believe that babies are in charge of unregistered persons should inform the proper authorities, and so bring under due inspection those who are not likely to have evaded the law for any legitimate purpose.

Chicago is a cosmopolitan city, and the members of the Visiting Nurse Staff working under Miss Edna Foley meet with all nationalities amongst the patients and their families.

standards of efficiency for visiting nursing. Many in Canada feel sure that so long as the Order exists provision will be made for having the poor and needy, the working man, and the man of moderate means, nursed and cared for as tenderly and skilfully as the richest and most influential persons in the land. The Order must not fail them."

We hope these last words of one of the most experienced and patriotic of Canadian Superintendents of Nurses will not be disregarded by those who have no more right to express opinions on nursing standards than on the professional education and qualifications of the medical faculty.

[previous page](#)

[next page](#)