

from smaller towns, on this vital subject. Questions such as, "Does gonorrhoea ever run into syphilis?" "Is 606 a sure cure?" "Is syphilis curable?" are asked with great frequency. Through the knowledge thus gained the society hopes to amplify and improve the exhibit so that it will meet the needs of the men.

Perhaps the most important mobilization problem is that of the prevention of venereal disease. While it is true that some men will not be restrained from sex licence by the knowledge of sex hygiene, it cannot be denied that the facts obtained by this method will aid many recruits in practising continence, which, for the first time in history, has been recognised by the army and navy officials of a great nation as "the best safeguard against venereal infection." Moreover, by impressing those who are already or who will become infected, with the importance of early and thorough treatment, the spread of the disease will surely be limited. Previous wars have invariably been followed by an increase of gonorrhoea and syphilis among the general population. If the soldier can be sent back home with a sane knowledge of sex hygiene and a fear of the venereal diseases instead of an infection, we may hope that history may not repeat itself this time.

This plan as carried out by the Missouri Social Hygiene Society is supervised by the American Social Hygiene Association, the only association in this field recognised by the National Board of Defence.

RED CROSS GIFT HOUSE.

Every one should visit the collection of gifts of objects of art which are on view at 20, King Street, St. James's, S.W. 1, which are to be sold for the benefit of the Central Prisoners of War Fund. This is a scheme that will bless him that gives and him that buys.

Every week 60,430 parcels are dispatched to prisoners by this society, so that purchasers may be well assured that their cheques are well spent. In return, collectors of art treasures and curios will be able to possess themselves of some beautiful specimens of their particular fancy, be it antique furniture, jewels, old silver, books, pictures, miniatures, needlework or tapestry. China lovers especially will find here many beautiful specimens to tempt them.

Those whose purses are not long enough to allow of their contemplating purchase need not feel debarred from the pleasure of seeing the many fascinating exhibits, for though, of course, the object of the exhibition is to attract purchasers, less profitable visitors are allowed to inspect the collection, and are received by charming ladies in the most courteous manner.

The Gift House is open daily from 10 to 6. On Saturday, from 10 to 1.

Silver Red Cross medals have been awarded to Mrs. Roy, nurse at the Military Hospital at Villemin, Paris, and to Miss Ida Hamilton Moore, nurse at the Military Hospital at Montpellier.

NO ROYAL BRITISH COLLEGE OF NURSING AT PRESENT.

In reply to several enquiries in reference to the amalgamation of the Royal British Nurses' Association and the College of Nursing, Ltd., nothing so far has been definitely settled. The two bodies are still, we are informed, "negotiating."

To speak about "the amalgamation of the College with the R.B.N.A." may be technically in order, but the fact remains that the Supplemental Charter and new Bye-Laws provide in great part for the adoption of the College Constitution and the elimination of the present Constitution and title—Royal British Nurses' Association—and it is difficult to see where the Chartered Corporation comes in practically. Even if the Supplemental Charter is granted, it is rumoured that its provisions will be much curtailed and that it will not include the coercive powers of control asked for over the whole nursing profession. There is no doubt, as we have pointed out, that modifications are imperatively necessary, unless the nursing profession is to be deprived of rightful independence.

THE CORPORATION OF THE CITY OF GLASGOW OPPOSE THE GRANTING OF A SUPPLEMENTAL CHARTER.

The Corporation of the City of Glasgow has presented a Petition to the Privy Council against granting a Supplemental Charter to the Royal British Nurses' Association.

PATRIOTIC IRISH NURSES ATTACKED BY SIR HENRY BURDETT.

We note that Sir Henry Burdett, a promoter of the autocratic Nursing College Constitution (under another name), is attempting to discredit, and—if possible—smash up professional co-operation amongst trained nurses in Ireland—using his lucrative "journals for nurses" for the purpose.

The new Irish Nursing Board, founded in Dublin by Irish doctors and nurses to manage their own affairs, is his latest *bête noire*.

Sir Henry, like many obtuse Englishmen where Ireland is concerned, is of opinion that Irish nurses should be governed from London by Englishwomen trained in our most reactionary and autocratic schools, who condescend to occupy the most lucrative posts in the Irish Nursing world.

Many patriotic Irish nurses think quite otherwise, and prefer an Irish Board inspired by national ideals. We are entirely in sympathy with their aspirations.

As was inevitable, confusion is arising between the two Nursing Boards now set up in Dublin, and we think it would have been more fair had the College of Nursing Board refrained from placing on its office window, "Irish Board," with College of Nursing *underneath*, now that there is a *real* Irish Board at 34, St. Stephen's Green. We

[previous page](#)

[next page](#)