

THE COLLEGE OF NURSING, LTD.

THE VIEWS OF THE CHAIRMAN.

In an interview with a representative of the *Daily Mail*, published on November 1st, under the heading "Nurses' Charter" (which, by the way, is still the property of the Royal British Nurses' Association), Sir Arthur Stanley said:—

"We feel that now is the time when the large body of semi-trained nurses, V.A.D.s, and others, should be in a position to continue their nursing training on beneficial terms, and our endeavour will be to organise the acceptance of the V.A.D.s by the College of Nursing. In the interest of the public as well as the nurses, it is essential that a high standard of efficiency should be laid down and that what constitutes a trained nurse should be clearly defined and established. The College of Nursing will do this.

WE MUST HAVE MONEY NOW.

"But we must have money now, and the British Women's Hospital Committee, who so splendidly organised the 'Star and Garter' Fund, have said that they will help. We require an endowment fund, also money to provide a suitable building in London where the college may have its headquarters; where there may be examination, lecture and club rooms, where nurses may meet. We shall also hope for a benefit fund for assisting sick nurses and those who have grown old and weary in their services for humanity."

Certainly it would appear that if the College of Nursing, Ltd., is to keep afloat, it must have money, for a considerable proportion of the guineas paid by trained nurses on the understanding that the payment of this fee will entitle them to registration by the State, is already expended. But if the Council of the College wishes the charitable public to subsidize it for the benefit of V.A.D.s, then the British Women's Hospital Committee should say so in its appeal and not ask for alms on the ground that their fund is the Nation's Fund for *Nurses* organised as a thank offering from the British Empire to British Nurses.

IN CHARITY'S CAUSE.

On Tuesday last Society disported itself in angelic form at a Variety Entertainment at the Palace, the rôle in which it elected to appear taking the form of Tableaux of "Angels," in which ladies, more or less lovely, personified "angels the old Masters loved to paint," after posing beforehand for the picture papers.

No doubt these ministering angels consider they are doing a kindness to the poor nurses for whose benefit this matinée was arranged by the British Women's Hospital Fund, but the self-respecting professional element in the nursing profession resent being held up to all and sundry as an object of public charity.

From all accounts the public meeting for nurses in Dublin on October 29th, organised by the Irish

Branch of the College of Nursing, Ltd., was a very dull affair. Dr. Peacocke, Chairman of the Branch, presided, and the Secretary, Miss Vera Matheson, addressed the meeting at length, and claimed that the Irish Branch of the College of Nursing was the first to tackle the problem of nursing organisation in Ireland.

Two nurses asked questions and received unsatisfactory replies, and then the Chairman said that they could not sit there all night, and if no one was going to discuss they had better go, which they proceeded to do.

On Friday, November 2nd, Sir Arthur Chance addressed a large and representative meeting at the South Infirmary, Cork, on the aims of the Irish Nursing Board (approved by the Royal College of Surgeons, Ireland), and explained the difference between these aims and the proposals of the College of Nursing, Ltd. The meeting appears to have been a great success.

Dealing with the question of "Irish Nurses and the English College," under "Matters of Moment," *The General Advertiser* says:—"The feeling of indignation amongst Irish Nurses at the invasion of their domain by the London College of Nursing, Ltd., is growing, and there is every prospect of a strong and successful opposition to the project. The Irish Nursing Board, approved by the Royal College of Surgeons, Ireland, is leading the opposition, and is determined that the rights and bonds of Irish nurses shall not be controlled by this English Limited Liability Company."

Miss Rimmer, Joint Hon. Secretary of the N.U.T.N., has an excellent letter in the *Yorkshire Post* on the College Controversy, short and to the point:

TRUE TALES WITH A MORAL.

MUST HAVE A REAL NURSE.

Great Lady of neighbourhood, whose daughter has been taken violently ill during night, perforation is feared, and the District Nurse has been on duty with the girl all night, as the doctor has been obliged to go to a confinement case at a distance; there is a slight improvement in the patient's condition. The Doctor advises two nurses being got in at once.

Great Lady: "Oh, certainly; of course if my daughter is going to be ill we must have a *real nurse!*"—*N.U.T.N. Quarterly.*

N.B.—No disparagement of the thoroughly-trained and invaluable article is intended. There are district nurses *and* district nurses. Midwives supplied to the poor by "great ladies" under the name of district nurse are frequently not "real nurses."

THE PASSING BELL.

We regret to record the death, at Edinburgh, of Miss Agnes M'Alpin, of Glasgow, founder of the M'Alpin Nursing Home in that city, at the age of 92.

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