

of the British Red Cross Society and the Order of St. John of Jerusalem, and organizations affiliated thereto; Personnel working under the St. Andrew's Ambulance Association; Women holding official appointments with the British forces.

A Sister from France writes:—"We are strictly forbidden to write to the press, but I want you to know that the Acting Matron here has been touring round presumably at the nation's expense in a motor car, with a lay journalist representing a so-called nursing paper in England. Many of the Sisters feel strongly that if publishers want to make money out of the war they should pay for the motor cars of their own reporters, as the daily press do, and not expect the British taxpayer or philanthropist to foot the bill. But what we most strongly object to is our Acting Principal Matron using her position, supported by this lay reporter, to thrust forward the College scheme, and to all the pressure which is being put on us through Red Cross influences to join this College. Many of us are strongly averse to the actresses' charity scheme upon our behalf, and consider it most impertinent of these women to make us the stalking horse for Red Cross and other honours for themselves. We were thankful to see what you said about begging for us from Tommies and officers; it is most degrading, and so absolutely unprofessional, and our senior officers should protest, instead of supporting such methods, but with Red Crosses dangling in front of their eyes, they do not seem to see an inch beyond them, and certainly have not the courage to stand up to the powers that be, upon our behalf. The whole atmosphere of *cringe* makes one sick."

We agree; it does. We have other letters marked "private" from nurses and Sisters, objecting to the pressure put upon them to join the College by their senior officers. We are tabulating these for the private information of Members of Parliament, and if, in the future any attempt is made to compel independent members of the Nursing Profession to join the College by Act of Parliament, as provided in the Bill of the College of Nursing, Ltd., they must be used as proof of coercion. It is an astounding proposition outside Prussia. Moreover, we are not going to be dictated to by a lay-edited commercial nursing press, as apparently the College officials are content to be.

NO LONGER A PROFESSION.

The Hon. Sir Arthur Stanley, supported by Miss May Whitty (Mrs. Ben Webster), attended a meeting at the Royal Infirmary, Manchester, on April 28th. It is hoped to raise £25,000 in the Manchester district in support of the organisation of the Nursing Profession on a charitable basis. We fear, should our employers succeed in thrusting this system upon trained nurses, that the status of a profession can no longer be claimed for Nursing. It will be degraded below domestic service which is

a self-supporting class of labour and will presumably only be adopted by a very low and dependent type of worker in the future.

A BREACH OF THE LAW.

It is an immense relief that the hoardings of the Metropolis are no longer defaced with the semi-nude female masquerading as a nurse, the while embracing a wounded man, and appealing for the "Nation's Fund for Nurses." But we note that Viscountess Cowdray is still breaking the law by omitting in printed appeals to state that the Fund is "registered under the War Charities Act." In the prospectus of a Bazaar to be held in the Midland Hotel, Manchester, for the same charity, the same contempt for the law is evinced by Miss Sparshott and other promoters of the function.

V.A.D.S REQUIRED.

The V.A.D. Department announces that there is a serious deficiency of nursing members for military and naval hospitals, and that a number of well-educated, capable, and physically-fit women between the ages of 21 and 48 are required at once for service in this country. Previous hospital experience and nursing certificates are not necessary. Those accepted for service receive a salary of £20 a year. Apply to Devonshire House, W.

FRENCH FLAG NURSING CORPS.

Miss Ada Bell Weir has rejoined the Corps. She was trained at and holds the three years' certificate from the Victoria Infirmary, Glasgow, and the Maternity Hospital, Glasgow. Miss Weir then joined the Scottish Branch of Queen Victoria's Jubilee Institute for District Nursing, of which she was a valued member for several years. In 1914 she had a year's leave and went to France and worked in military hospitals at St. Malo, Calais and Vittel. The F.F.N.C. is pleased to re-admit Miss Weir as a member. She left for France on Tuesday, 7th inst.

Miss Annie Mildred Hanning has also rejoined the Corps. Miss Hanning was trained and holds the three years' certificate of the Royal Infirmary, Sunderland. Since 1914 she has been engaged in military nursing—in Belgium, for which service she has been awarded the Mons Star, and during 1915, in France, as a member of the F.F.N.C. For the past two years she has been attached to the Ambulance Mobile No. 1 Borden Turner Hospital, where the devoted services of many of the F.F.N.C. Sisters have also been greatly appreciated.

Members of the Corps who hold Miss Grace Ellison in affectionate regard, will be pleased to know that she continues to make steady progress towards recovery after her serious illness, under the care of Dr. Anna Hamilton, at Bordeaux. She sends greetings to all her friends.

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