

Eventually it was agreed, on the proposition of Mrs. Walker, seconded by Mrs. Hirst, to refer the matter back to the committee until the clerk had made inquiries as to the practice at similar institutions.

We are glad the Board is to give further consideration to this important matter. The Nurses' Home should be under the personal direction of a trained nurse, if good discipline, comfort, and happiness are to be maintained. Professional women are not amenable to the control of a lay housekeeper, whose personal interests are often at variance with the best interests of the Nursing School arrangements and domestic comfort of the staff. At the same time a Home Sister should have experience of domestic science and be a trained dietitian, otherwise the best standard of economy, together with efficiency, cannot be attained.

At a recent meeting of the Skipton Urban Council a letter was read from Dr. Bullough, the acting County Medical Officer, stating that Nurse Grainger, recently appointed health visitor for Skipton under a joint arrangement with the County Council and the local authority, was also to take charge of the maternity centre and clinic.

Mr. Farey moved that the letter be referred back, and characterised the arrangement as a deliberate betrayal of the intentions of the County Council and the Local Health Committee. That Committee had put its hand to the plough to suppress and extinguish phthisis, and they intended to carry out their task.

Mr. Hartly hoped the Council would support the maternity centre.

Both objects are good, but in our view they must not be carried out by the same nurse if justice is to be done to both. A Health Visitor's primary duty is visiting. She cannot, therefore, be on duty at the maternity centre and clinic.

There is the added risk of her bringing infection to the clinic, to which it should not be subjected. We agree with Mr. Jennings that a combination of the two appointments would probably end in the local authority having a nurse in theory only.

SAVE YOUR BOVRIL BOTTLES.

By desire of the Director-General of National Salvage all users of Bovril are requested to carefully save all empty Bovril bottles. The supply of Bovril this winter will largely depend upon the care which the public take in returning empty Bovril bottles.

OUTSIDE THE GATES.

The women's section of the Imperial War Services Museum is organising an exhibition to be opened at the Whitechapel Art Gallery on October 9th.

The Home Office will have a big section, organised by Miss Anderson, chief woman Factory Inspector, showing the substitution of women for men.

An important section will be that devoted to a memorial to the women who have lost their lives on war service. Their number is far greater than the ordinary civilian realises. A number of the medals won by women, which have been presented to the museum, will be shown, including Mrs. Harley's Serbian and French medals, and Dr. Elsie Inglis's Serbian medals. The memorial will be draped in black, and should prove both inspiring and impressive.

BOOK OF THE WEEK.

"THE LOVE OF AN UNKNOWN SOLDIER."*

FOUND IN A DUG-OUT.

Amongst the many pathetic documents which have been produced in connection with the war, none can make a more poignant appeal than the letters which are reproduced in this volume.

Mr. John Lane, who is the publisher, has himself written the "Explanation," and his reasons for publishing the volume.

He says: "The MS. was submitted to me by a young officer from the Front on leave. He explained that he had brought with him from France a bundle of papers which he had found in an abandoned gun position. There was no indication of the writer's name or his unit, and the name of the girl he loved was never recorded. His first impulse was to respect the dead man's privacy and destroy the papers; but on second thoughts he recognised that they were the sacred property of the woman who had inspired such adoration and courage."

Mr. John Lane goes on to say that he was from the first impressed with the literary value of the MS. but "as I read on I became more and more deeply absorbed in its poignant human importance, especially in its importance to some American girl, who, all unknowingly, had quickened the last days of this unknown soldier's life with romance. I felt that she must be discovered and that the only chance of doing so was by publishing these documents."

This "explanation" at once placed on the letters the *cachet* of their genuine character, and we know beyond doubt that we are reading the outpouring of a brave and gallant gentleman, to the woman he loved with a love so unselfish

* John Lane, Bodley Head.

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