

During War all had been hushed and dark and colourless.

"Every penny for prisoners, my dear—every penny."

We arrived. The old brightness and sweetness prevailed. Glorious fires burned in the grates.

By and bye a couple of spectres in khaki came in. I was introduced to "two brave unbroken English hearts, prisoners of war since Mons."

We dined sumptuously, as in Johnny's day. "Behold my 'Christian Duty,'" cried Susan, toasting spectre No. 1, "and my 'National Obligation,'" bowing to No. 2. "Here is to the 140,000 prisoners coming home from the Torture Camps of the Hun. Women of Britain, see to it that these 'brave English hearts' have every available bit and sup they need before one crumb which falls from their table is handed to the Hun."

We clinked glasses and vowed a vow.

E. G. F.

NATIONAL COUNCIL OF TRAINED NURSES.

The annual meeting of the Grand Council (Delegates) of the National Council of Trained Nurses will be held at 431, Oxford Street, London, W. 1, on Friday, November 29th, at 4 p.m.

Nominations for one Vice-President and two Directors, who retire annually, should be sent to the Hon. Secretary at 431, Oxford Street, London, W. 1, before that date. Each affiliated Association has the right to depute two Delegates to serve on the Grand Council; Associations of 400 members three Delegates, and over 600 four Delegates, after which there is no increase of representation.

OFFICE BEARERS AT PRESENT.

President.—Mrs. Bedford Fenwick.

Vice-Presidents.—Miss Elma Smith, Matron, The Infirmary, Hendon; Mrs. Strong, President, Scottish Nurses' Association; Miss A. M. Macdonnell, R.R.C., Matron, War Hospital, Perth.

Directors.—Miss M. Heather-Bigg, R.R.C., Miss H. L. Pearse, Miss A. Dowbiggin, R.R.C., Miss S. A. Villiers, Miss J. W. Davies, Miss Carson-Rae.

Hon. Treasurer.—Miss Christina Forrest.

Hon. Secretary.—Miss B. Cutler.

Ex-officio.—The Presidents of the Matrons'

Council, the Irish Nurses' Association, and the National Union of Trained Nurses.

The business before the meeting will be of professional importance. As events are framing, it is probable that the International Council of Nurses may be convened for 1920, instead of in this year of war, 1918, when it was due to meet. If so, it will be none too soon for the National Council of Great Britain and Ireland to begin to consider this great event.

NATIONAL UNION OF TRAINED NURSES.

¶We are glad to hear the Meeting organised by the N.U.T.N., "To consider the Influence on the Nation of a Ministry of Health," promises to be well attended and very interesting. It is to be held at the College of Ambulance, 3, Vere Street, Oxford Street, W., and Dr. C. W. Saleeby and Miss Helen Pearse are to speak. The Rev. H. R. L. Sheppard will be in the chair, and we hope there will be a lively discussion. The work of Trained Nurses should be recognised at its true value in any Health scheme for the community, and it is to be hoped that they will not stand silently by and permit the Service to be largely composed of women with a superficial knowledge of sanitary science and home nursing. The pushing amateur is ever in our midst, and often commands higher remuneration from public funds than the skilled worker. We all know the cheap and inefficient standards of nursing offered to the poor, especially in rural districts. Of course nothing will alter that but State Authority and the escape of our profession from plutocratic patronage. We must see that under a Health Ministry the poor get the right thing, and the N.U.T.N. means to do its part to bring about this happy consummation.

NURSES' MISSIONARY LEAGUE.

A Quiet Day for Prayer and Meditation will be held on St. Andrew's Day, Saturday, November 30th, at St. Michael's Church, Chester Square, W. 1, conducted by the Rev. Cecil White, M.A., and the Rev. J. Gough McCormick, M.A. 6 a.m., and 8 a.m.: Holy Communion, 10.30–12.30: Addresses by the Rev. Cecil White, M.A., "To Strengthen Such as do Stand" (1) By a clearer vision, (2) By a Brighter hope, (3) By a stronger faith. 3–4.30: Special Thanksgiving Service and Intercession. Address by Rev. J. Gough McCormick, M.A., "To Beat Down Satan under our Feet." Fellowship of Silence. There will be periods for Prayer and silent meditation after each address.

Courage for the great sorrows of life and patience for the small ones, and then, when you have laboriously accomplished your daily task, go to sleep in peace. God is awake.—*Victor Hugo.*

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