

at the Westminster Coroner's Court revealed widespread demoralisation amongst a group of people addicted to "doping" with opium, cocaine, heroin, and other deadly drugs, who, even down to the servant employed by a man dressmaker (de Veulle), to procure opium from a Chinese at Limehouse, attended the Victory Ball at the Albert Hall and paid cash in support of the "Nation's Fund for Nurses," run by Lady Cowdray and a Committee of actresses, in support of the College of Nursing, Ltd. The strong opposition of the organised Nurses' Societies, has been explained to this Committee of persons—who have no right whatever to interfere with the nurses' professional affairs—to having their profession based on vicarious charity, and their protest appeared in the press, before the Ball, at this method of obtaining money in their name.

Since the *exposé* at the aforesaid inquest, we have been asked if the late Miss Billie Carleton was a member of Lady Cowdray's Committee. She was not, but Miss Fay Compton is a member, and has publicly begged for the Nurses!

We need say no more than to advise the Members of our profession who resent association with the promoters of the Nation's Fund, to carefully read the scandalous revelations at the inquest, which appeared in the daily press on December 13th, and when the whole case is before the public (with reservations for the highly-placed, no doubt), that they will bring it to the notice of their new Member of Parliament, to prove how dangerous it is for professional women workers to be associated in any way, or controlled by, either financially or otherwise, the type of persons who are content to promote such a function as the Victory Ball in their name.

We spurn the "tainted money" acquired by such means.

IN A NUTSHELL.

Last week's *John Bull* puts the Nation's Fund for Nurses, in so far as the College of Nursing is concerned, in a nutshell in the following paragraph:

MISSING THE FUND.

Before we give our contribution to the Nation's Fund for Nurses, we should like to know where the money's going. The purport of the Fund is to benefit a limited company. "The College of Nursing, Ltd." What is the object of this concern? Has it anything to do with the passing of the Nurses' Registration Bill, which will shortly deprive the employers of nurses of their reservoir of cheap labour? The Fund must be already enormous. For instance, £16,000 was netted at the Albert Hall Ball, and £6,000 at a Tombola in Manchester. Who's going to administer it? And why are Lady Cowdray, Sir Arthur Stanley, and the other organisers calling this sinking fund for a company "The Nation's Fund for Nurses"?

With the Editor of *John Bull*, many trained nurses demand an answer to these questions. The

"Nation" has been entirely deluded by the misnaming of this appeal by Lady Cowdray, and it is high time the London County Council put a stop to the methods by which the Nursing Profession as a whole is being exploited through the War Charities Act, to finance the College of Nursing Company, and thus to thrust upon nurses the autocratic constitution of the College, of which intelligent nurses realise the danger to personal and professional freedom.

We are not surprised to learn, from an authoritative source that the subsidised daily press has been requested to leave out all reference to the College of Nursing, Ltd., and the so-called Nation's Fund for Nurses in reporting the "Doping" scandal in connection with the Victory Ball, by which they netted £16,000!

PLEASE NOTE.

Miss OLIVE RICHARDSON, of 2, Windsor Mansions, 296, Streatham High Road, daughter of the late Professor J. J. Richardson, and teacher of dancing, elocution and dramatic art, wishes to inform the public that she is in no way connected with the Olive Richardson who drove away from the Victory Ball in company with an officer and the late Miss Billie Carleton.

AMERICAN NURSES AND THE "SOUND" CONSTITUTION OF THE COLLEGE OF NURSING, LTD.

Miss A. Lloyd-Still, Matron of St. Thomas' Hospital, London, states in the *American Journal of Nursing* that the College Council knows nothing of invitations to American nurses to join it, but "I have been informed, however, by a member of the Council that a certain number of American nurses, who were impressed with the sound constitution of the College and its splendid aims, asked if they might not become members, or, at least associates."

If American nurses have had the opportunity of studying the constitution of the College, it is more than British nurses have; and it would be interesting to know what type of American nurse is prepared to sign an agreement to have her name removed by the Council from the College register *without power of appeal*, and considers such a constitution, which enforces this type of control, "sound." Our advice to such nurses is immediately, upon their return to their own free country, to cast an eye over that priceless document, the Declaration of Independence. Also why not send a copy of this "sound" Declaration to the Council of the College of Nursing, Ltd.? Too late this year, we fear, as a Christmas greeting.

[previous page](#)

[next page](#)