

seems possible to obtain from other sources the services of women for work on the land, the committee think it undesirable to second nurses wholly for farm work, and have directed that they shall no longer be so employed.

The Committee have granted extra duty pay to a large number of members of the nursing staff at the Banstead mental hospital.

The Hon. Albinia Brodrick's pamphlet, "Professional Development and Organization," is on sale, price 2d., at the office of the National Union of Trained Nurses, 46, Marsham Street, London, S.W. 1, the keynotes of which are Democracy, Comradeship, Organization. Every nurse should own it, study it, and live up to it.

Miss Grace Ross Cadell, L.R.C.P., L.R.C.S., late of Edinburgh, left £1,000 to the Queen's Nurses in Scotland, and £300 to the Leith Branch of the Queen's Nurses—a legacy which will bring comfort to many a sick body.

LEGAL MATTERS.

A case involving important principles was recently brought by the Norfolk Nursing Federation, in regard to a broken agreement, the defendant being Miss Kose Snelling, of 20, Junction Road, Norwich.

Mr. F. A. Bainbridge said the Federation was a charitable institution, to obtain suitable candidates and train them as village nurses. The vice-presidents were ladies and gentlemen of leading position and standing in Norfolk. There were two agreements, one for training at Plaistow, under which £24 os. 11d. was claimed for non-fulfilment. Under the second the defendant was "to become a trained nurse at the Norwich Isolation Hospital," but left before completing her training.

The judge held that the first agreement could not stand. It was superseded by the second. In this he gave judgment for 30s.

The necessity for the statutory definition of a standard of what constitutes a trained nurse is manifest in this case. Certainly training at Plaistow—for the most part in district midwifery—and in a fever hospital, does not do so. "Ladies and gentlemen of leading position" would do well to refrain from interfering with the economic and professional standards of candidates for a skilled profession, unless they are prepared to enforce a just standard of training, which qualifies the nurses for their responsible duties, and enables them to compete with others in the open market.

THE PAPAL SCHOOL OF NURSING.

We quote the following interesting article on the Papal Nursing School from *The Universe* of a recent issue. The training of nuns in the science, in conjunction with the practice, of nursing, is one of the most progressive and necessary reforms amongst Religious Orders. We know how in the past the good Sisters in hospitals have excelled in the care of the cuisine and the linen; for the future every facility should be provided for them to care intelligently for the body in health and disease.

"The autumn and winter course of training for outside pupils at the Papal School of Nursing, our Rome correspondent writes, has come to its conclusion with the examinations at the end of Lent, and after Holy Week the Spring course opens. The existence of this school is still unknown to the majority of Catholics, yet its institution ranks easily among the greatest works of Pius X's Pontificate. As the founder and organiser of the school said to me on the morning when she was kind enough to take me over it: 'How many people are aware of the fact that His Holiness Pius X collected the Statutes and Constitutions of every religious nursing Order in the Church, in order to study the best means of providing facilities for their members to follow a modern training and pass up-to-date examinations while yet living in accordance with their rule, and that the record of this research is filed in the secret archives of the Congregation of Religious?'

This is briefly the history of the school. In 1904 (during the first year of Pius X Pontificate) a certain French lady, who had devoted her life to hospital organisation in her own country and had just completed the foundation and equipment of the Hôpital St. Joseph in Paris, was paying her annual visit to Rome. In a private audience she asked a blessing on her work, of which she gave an account to His Holiness. The Holy Father, after enquiring into every detail, asked her to stay in Rome and take charge of a training school he wished to organise, in which members of religious Orders could obtain an up-to-date training in the right spiritual conditions. This she was unable to do, but she promised to return the following year, when she would have finished the work she was engaged on in France. She was true to her word, and in 1906 the school was opened on a very modest scale in temporary quarters in the *Prati*. It grew and prospered, and in 1912, funds being assured, its own building was begun under the shadow

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