

The gift sent by Princess Mary is an antique Dutch snuff-box, and it was decided that this, together with Admiral Beatty's picture, should be auctioned during the matinee.

*The Labour Woman*, a Paper for Working Women, has an admirable article in this month's issue on "State Registration of Trained Nurses." We are grateful to find the Editor thoroughly up to date in nursing politics.

The coroner at an inquest at Oswestry Cottage Hospital, on Burton Ronald Pritchard (seven), who died from scalds caused by upsetting a saucepan of stew at his parents' home, severely censured two unqualified nurses for not calling in a doctor immediately after dressing the child's injuries.

This is what will happen to the poor if "unqualified" nurses are foisted upon them. We hope the Labour women's organizations will carefully watch the V.A.D. District Nursing Scheme, and insist upon equal standards of nursing for rich and poor.

Miss E. L. C. Eden, Hon. Adviser to the National Union of Trained Nurses, has a crisp little article in the *Nursing Journal of India*, tapping the State Registration nail on the head very effectively. Reprints as a leaflet might be distributed on this side. Few trained nurses have time or inclination to read long articles, or think out nursing politics for themselves. "The Organization of Nurses" would help them considerably.

We regret to observe that if an Editor willing to undertake the responsibility of bringing out the *Nursing Journal of India* cannot be found, this valuable journal will cease publication. This would be a thousand pities. No profession can co-operate effectively without its organ in the press, free from lay control and economic pressure. It is a great reflection on British Nurses that, through loyal co-operation, they do not make their organs financially secure, as their American cousins have done, but are apparently quite content to accept the voluntary labours of the devoted few. This is wrong. Nurses have plenty of news and copy, and news and copy are PROPERTY. It is time nippy lay publishing companies, such as flourish on us in this country, ceased to make huge profits out of our assets, the while utilising their publications for our subjugation. The position makes us ridiculous.

## THE ROYAL BRITISH NURSES' ASSOCIATION.

### DEPUTATION TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT BOARD.

In response to a request from Her Royal Highness Princess Christian, President, and the Executive Committee of the Corporation, Dr. Addison, President of the Local Government Board, received at the L.G.B. Office on February 6th, a Deputation, organised by the Royal British Nurses' Association, the object of which was to lay before him their views regarding the relationship of Nursing to the proposed Ministry of Health, and the position of Trained Nurses in connection with any State Nursing Service which may be instituted.

#### THE DEPUTATION.

The Deputation, which was introduced by Mr. Herbert J. Paterson, F.R.C.S., M.C. Cantab., Hon. Medical Secretary to the Corporation, included:

Mrs. Bedford Fenwick, Hon. Nurse Secretary, Central Committee for the State Registration of Nurses.

Lieutenant-Colonel E. W. Goodall, Hon. Medical Secretary, Central Committee.

Miss M. Heather-Bigg, R.R.C., Vice-Chairman, Royal British Nurses' Association; President, Matrons' Council of Great Britain and Ireland.

Dr. Foord Caiger, President, Fever Nurses' Association.

Miss Helen Pearce, Superintendent, London County Council School Nurses; Member of Council, Royal British Nurses' Association.

Miss M. Breay, Hon. Secretary, Society for the State Registration of Trained Nurses.

Miss M. F. Rimmer, Hon. Secretary, National Union of Trained Nurses.

Miss Florence Wise, Superintendent, Infant Welfare Centre, Anerley.

Dr. Addison received the Deputation sympathetically and courteously, and apologised for his inability to hear personally the representations which were to be made to him, owing to an important Committee Meeting which he was bound to attend elsewhere. Major Astor, Parliamentary Secretary to the Local Government Board, would, however, hear the Deputation, and report to him subsequently. He would only say at that moment that in any scheme which might be framed in connection with the establishment of a Ministry of Health, in the near future, he intended to do everything he could to improve the conditions of nursing in regard to pay, qualifications, and training.

#### MR. HERBERT PATERSON.

Addressing Major the Hon. Waldorf Astor, Mr. Paterson said he had pleasure in introducing the Deputation from the Royal British Nurses' Association, the only body of women to whom a Royal Charter had been given. He felt

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