

of thousands of murders. We cannot believe she would have supported such an appeal.

From information received, great difficulty would have arisen in raising the £10,000 Tribute to Irish Nurses, which is to be carefully administered in Ireland, if it had not been largely raised by functions of one sort or another. There appeared to be no rush to subscribe to the Fund by the public generally. No doubt the objection of many Irish Nurses to association with the Nation's Fund, as run in England, may have had something to do with lack of enthusiasm concerning it.

Various schemes for the distribution of the Fund will be under the consideration of the Council and Executive Committee, but it is thought that the giving of grants in cases of sickness or need, and the helping of nurses with insurance or pension payments would be, perhaps, the most excellent methods of dealing with the yearly income available for distribution.

The Irish Nurses' Association is busy considering questions of economic importance to Irish nurses, but we gather that it is not in favour of Trades Unionism for Nurses, although, no doubt, in the future all classes of workers, brain and manual, professional and industrial, will co-operate in some degree for the upkeep of the dignity of labour.

America has certainly led the van in Public Health Nursing.

A Chair of Nursing and Health has just been established at the University of Michigan, and Miss Dora Barnes has been appointed Professor.

Mrs. Tracy McGregor, a director of the Visiting Nurse Association, recently gave a dinner to seventy-five public health nurses, to show her personal appreciation of the fine spirit shown by them during the influenza epidemic. Miss Barnes, who was present, told of the new course at Michigan, and Miss Ahrens spoke of the peace developments of the American Red Cross.

Dr. Anna Hamilton, of Bordeaux, has received a very warm welcome in the United States, where she has gone on a quest for funds for the development of her Nursing School in France. Miss L. Dock makes the proposal in the *American Journal of Nursing* that the organized nurses of America shall undertake to collect special contributions for the Bordeaux School, as a most worthy Memorial of Nurses who gave their lives in the service during the Great War.

## THE ECONOMIC POSITION OF NURSES.

(WITH REFERENCE TO HOURS OF WORK, PAY, AND PHYSICAL WELFARE.)

The Economic Position of Nurses is at last becoming a live question, and, as we reported in our issue of March 8th, the National Council of Women of Great Britain and Ireland has appointed a Special Committee to enquire into the question, and as a widely influential and neutral body of women of great experience in all social questions of the day we hope, when received, its *questionnaire* will receive the courtesy and attention it deserves.

Mrs. Ogilvie Gordon, the President of the National Council, is herself deeply interested in this matter of urgent social reform, and issued invitations to various Nurses' organisations affiliated to the Council, together with lay and medical members to help her in the enquiry and in drafting the report.

The College of Nursing, Ltd.—a body we have always considered unsuitable for affiliation to the Council of Women, owing to its autocratic constitution so far as nurse members are concerned, the complete Executive control being in the hands of men—at first accepted representation on the Special Committee of the N.U.W., but later assumed the usual arrogant tactics where the self-governing Nurses' Organisations are concerned. Thus it is improbable that it will take part in this neutral investigation, and will duplicate the inquiry through a Committee it has now set up. The fact is, the College Council, as we said before, is composed entirely of the employers of nurses and their Matrons, and cannot enquire into conditions for which they are partly responsible in any manner which would inspire confidence—you cannot be judge and jury too. We believe the College Committee is enquiring into the salaries of Nurses only. The reference of the National Council is much more extended in its scope, and its report will carry weight.

The Nurses' Organisations, which have long formed a component part of the National Council of Women, and helped to build up its powerful position as the leading organisation of women in this country are:—

The National Council of Trained Nurses. Many Leagues of Nurses thus come into touch with it.

The Matrons' Council.

The Society for State Registration of Nurses.

The National Union of Trained Nurses.

The Scottish Matrons' Association.

The Irish Nurses' Association. And recently, the College of Nursing, Ltd., and the Poor Law Infirmary Matrons' Association have been admitted.

## NURSES AND SHORTER HOURS.

LEEDS TOWNSHIP INFIRMARY SCHEME.

The Leeds Board of Guardians recently approved of a new scale of hours of duty for the nursing staff at the Township Infirmary. At

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