

expressed that professional standards should be set by professional people, and that unless nurses were firm on this point at the present time we should not have any nursing profession in the future. During the war the assumption by amateurs of the governing classes of the control of nursing affairs outside the Regular Nursing Services, and the contempt shown for paid workers, had been quite indefensible.

LEAGUE OF TRAINED NURSES ENGAGED IN PUBLIC HEALTH WORK.

It was proposed, seconded, and unanimously resolved that "a League be now formed of Trained Nurses engaged in Public Health work." A Sub-Committee was appointed to draw up a Constitution and submit it to a future meeting.

At the conclusion of the Conference Miss Isabel Macdonald, the Secretary of the Corporation, whose unceasing and vigilant work in the interests of the members commands their gratitude and esteem, and whose unvarying courtesy and kindness have gained their warm personal friendship, invited those present to tea, and the discussion continued less formally, but quite as eagerly, as at the Conference proper.

Public Health Nurses, such as District and School and Welfare workers, Inspectors, Organisers, &c., who are trained nurses, interested in the new League, should communicate with Miss Isabel Macdonald, at 10, Orchard Street, London, W.

We hope other informal Conferences between the members of the R.B.N.A. will be held in the future, as they are productive of much good.

THE SOCIETY OF CHARTERED NURSES.

The Committee of "The Society of Chartered Nurses" has circularised the nurses on the staff and informed them that, after twenty-two years' existence, it has decided to dissolve the Society as from Lady Day next (March 25th, 1919).

Naturally, this information has come as a severe blow to the nurses, especially at this time of demobilization, when thousands of trained nurses will be released from military service.

It will be well to make it plain that at its inception, when certain medical members and nurses, with the Secretary, Miss Etta Jackson, seceded from the Registered Nurses' Society, and, under the title of "The Society of Chartered Nurses," started a separate organisation of private nurses, that, although membership of the R.B.N.A. was obligatory for the staff, it has never been under the official control of the Chartered Corporation, so that the Association is not in any way responsible for the present decision of the Committee to dissolve.

We are informed that the nurses are considering their sad situation. They are informed that they have no claim on the surplus funds and that they have been "allocated" how, and for whom is not revealed. Thus, if they wished to

continue in their present offices (which, together with the Secretary's apartments, are very expensive), they could not do so without substantial capital. But there is no doubt that the "good-will" of the business built up by their work is an asset of which they can make use, if they unite, and, as a fundamental principle, elect a trained Superintendent to conduct their affairs for the future.

NATIONAL UNION OF TRAINED NURSES.

A meeting will be held on Saturday, January 18th, at the College of Ambulance, 3, Vere Street, London, W., at 3 p.m., when several members of the Union will give an account of their nursing experiences at the various Fronts during the War. Many interesting lantern slides will be shown. Miss Marsters will preside, and there will be no charge for admission. Personal experiences of those who have done active service close to the firing line will naturally be listened to, by those whose duties have kept them at home, with very great interest. How long ago it seems since all and sundry rushed off to the Front, whether they were qualified or not.

NURSING IN WAR TIME.

An interesting lecture with lantern slides was given by Miss J. B. N. Paterson, on January 8th, at 8 p.m., in the drawing room of the Manchester Social Club. The room was well filled with both nurses and members of the public, who all showed keen interest in Miss Paterson's slides on "Nursing in War Time," and also in her remarks after the lecture dealing with the present condition of the Nursing Profession.

She pointed out the benefits of State Registration of Nurses to the public as well as to nurses, and compared the two Registration Bills at present before Parliament; laying emphasis on the fact that an opposition Bill promoted by a limited liability company, which claims the right to remove a nurse's name from its voluntary register *without power of appeal*, is a menace to the Nursing Profession, and that its success would be a poor return for the good work already accomplished by nurses.

Many expressions of sympathy with our cause were afterwards received by Miss Paterson.

The Committee of the Manchester Branch of the N.U.T.N. are pleased to express their thanks to the Secretary of the Social Club and the Secretary of the Debating Society belonging to the Club for the use of room and canteen.

A message from Nancy says Marshal Foch has handed the Cross of the Legion of Honour to Sister Louise, the Superior of the Sisters of the Hospital at Nancy, and congratulated her on the services rendered by her under the most violent bombardments.

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