

A stroll over the moor where the bilberries are ripening and the heather already in bloom was a pleasant ending to what, by universal consent, was declared to be "the end of a perfect day."

ANNIE E. HULME,  
*Hon. Secretary.*

### THE CENTRAL COMMITTEE FOR THE STATE REGISTRATION OF NURSES.

A Meeting of the Central Committee will take place, by the kind permission of the British Medical Association, in its Council Chamber, 429, Strand, on Friday, July 18th, at 2.30, and not on the 19th as arranged, July 19th having been officially set apart as Peace Day.

### CENTRAL COMMITTEE'S BILL NOT WITHDRAWN.

The statement made in the nursing press subsidised by the College Company, that Major Barnett has withdrawn the Nurses' Registration Bill from the House of Commons, is absolutely untrue. Every effort has been made to induce him to do so, but although antiquated Parliamentary procedure may enable the College representatives, in pursuance of its vindictive policy, to wreck the Bill, and deprive the Nurses of the splendid Charter of Rights it contains, the Bill will only lapse with the Session, and the Debate will be resumed on July 25th, circumstances permitting.

### THE VOCAL THERAPY FUND.

The Vocal Therapy Fund, of which the Chairman is Sir Bryan Donkin, F.R.C.P., is formed to promote through speech and song the physical and mental health of sick, wounded and disabled Sailors and Soldiers in Hospitals, Convalescent Camps, and Training Centres, and to adopt, under Medical Advice, the most effective methods of Individual and Class Training in voice production, deep breathing, and aural training. This Curative Voice Training has been found most useful in cases in which the nervous system has been gravely affected.

A Concert in support of this excellent object is being given at the Botanical Gardens on July 12th, from 3 to 7, by Service and Ex-Service Men from hospitals and hostels. Tickets—Reserved 5s., Promenade 1s. 3d.—can be obtained from the Hon. Secretary, 32, Charles Street, W.

### NURSING ECHOES.

We are glad to learn that at last the appeal for a new Nurses' Home at "Barts" is being taken in hand in earnest, and that a handsome sum has already been quietly subscribed. It is estimated that £150,000 will be required.

Major Astor, Parliamentary Secretary to the Ministry of Health, introduced a Bill into the House of Commons without explanation last week, to alter the rate of remuneration for the purposes of exception from national health insurance. The text of the Bill has not yet been published, but it is understood that the proposal of the Ministry of Health, which is now the national insurance authority, is that the income limit should be raised from £160 to £250.

Should this rate of income be accepted by Parliament it will widely affect the Nursing profession, and will make it necessary for the majority of matrons, and private nurses now exempted at the £160 income limit to be insured. Many private nurses went out of national insurance upon the legal decision that with fees ranging from £2 2s. to £3 3s. a week, board, lodging and laundry, when engaged, their earnings amounted to £160 a year. Those private nurses who elected to continue in insurance will gain thereby, as we presume those who will have to re-enter insurance will probably lose. Nurses should apply for terms to the Secretary, Trained Women Nurses' Friendly Society, 431, Oxford Street, London, W. 1, which is the only nurses' approved insurance society which is entirely managed by trained nurses, and which admits only nurses trained and in training.

Princess Victoria's clubs for nurses in France have now all been closed. These clubs have, at the request of the military authorities, been transferred to the Army of the Rhine, after being the greatest boon and blessing to our nurses on active service.

No bit of work for the benefit of nurses during the war has been a greater success than Queen Mary's Hostel for Nurses, situated in the charming houses, 39 and 40, Bedford Place, W.C., where thousands of nurses have been provided with a most delightful and real home when passing through London to and from duty.

This Hostel is now closed, and will long remain in the memory of those so hospitably

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