

amongst the excluded classes! We presume, also, that the National Council of Women will use its influence in this connection. Both bodies have issued reports claiming reforms *re* work and wages. Now is their opportunity to see them effected through legislation.

The following little bit of snobbery is from the *Church Times* :—

WANTED.  
**£90.**—Mother and daughter or two friends required as COOK-HOUSEKEEPER and DOMESTIC WORKER (experienced) for eight-roomed house. Country, near station. Daily between-maid kept, also gardener who gives assistance house. Family four and nursery governess. V.A.D. dresses and aprons provided, no caps.—Mrs. W. ———

What are "V.A.D. dresses and aprons?" We believe they wore trained nurses' uniform in these particulars, and it was only the cap which was manipulated to make a distinction, so Mrs. W. cannot be run in and fined for infringing the dignity of the V.A.D.

In this connection we note in the medical quarter in which we reside that many nurse-maids have now assumed the white cap and veil worn by nurses home from the war, and which have quite superseded the nurse's bonnet. In France the little bonnet, which could be very becoming and modish if worn aright, was not found all that could be desired "at the front," so some natty French fingers designed the white-banded veil. This head-gear became universal in military nurses' uniforms, and we found it a passport when attached to the French Military Service. Now that our nurse-maids have adopted it, what is the next distinguishing headgear for the trained nurse? Let us hope our Bill will soon be in force, and then a "registered" uniform will be possible.

The public, who are feeling the financial strain in every direction, is up against the prohibitive cost of Nursing Homes, and "Richard George," writing in the *Daily Sketch*, says, "a month in a Nursing Home can be as expensive as living in a first-class hotel." There are Homes and Homes, we know, but sickness in a first-class hotel is a very costly matter indeed, and is apt to lack professional supervision. At the same time, when Mr. George complains that "a private nurse" from a "nursing institute" costs three to five guineas a week, in addition to her food, accommodation in your house, travelling expenses and laundry, and out of this the nurse gets about a pound a week, the rest going to keep up the institu-

tion," he is on the spot. Nurse-farming is out of date, and is a very long-standing abuse which no doubt the Nurses' Trade Union will tackle. If no trade unionist subscribed a penny to hospitals which exploited private nurses, and nurses refused to submit to the system, it would soon be stamped out.

The Allies are indebted to the members of the American Red Cross not only for valuable assistance in the care of their sick and wounded during the war, but for help still rendered in the devastated districts and among civilian populations. Recently we had the pleasure of meeting Miss Mary Fraser, who, with Miss Edna Foley, the well-known Superintendent of the Visiting Nurses' Association, Chicago, is now doing public health nursing in Italy. Miss Foley is working in the Eternal City, and Miss Fraser in a village close to Florence, where she finds her work most interesting. She speaks appreciatively of the care given by Italian mothers to their children, and having examined over 2,000 of these children from the crowns of their heads to the soles of their feet, reports that, with few exceptions, they were clean, well-nourished, and well clothed. The beds in their homes are also very clean and comfortable, and are constantly re-made and aired.

The Italian lives simply, mainly on black bread, macaroni, fruit, vegetables, and the light wine of the country—a diet suited to the climate, where the carbo-hydrates which enter so largely into the dietary of our northern country are, to a great extent, unnecessary.

It is proposed that the Association of Nurses of "La Source," Lausanne, shall enlarge its borders, and its monthly organ contains an interesting paper on the "Foundation of Sections of the Association." It is pointed out that it has long been recognised that unity is strength, and that it requires exceptional qualities, and often special financial resources, to be able alone, and without support, to compel the attention of modern society, and secure respect for one's work. But organisation, societies, associations, entail the renunciation of personal liberty for the benefit of the community. This does not appeal to modern women, but it is less irksome when the committee of the association is chosen by themselves, and when the regulations can be modified according to circumstances.

It is thought that if the Association does not entirely meet the needs of its members it is because the majority of them do not live in Lausanne and therefore the Committee at

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