

with the establishment of the Ministry of Health, which will necessarily increase all activities in relation to health matters, comes the call for a great number of additional nurses, and the future holds forth the prospect of plenty of work to do both at home and abroad.

The recent shortening of working hours in most of the Nursing Institutions throughout Scotland has resulted in the need for an increase of staff in General and Fever Hospitals, Sanatoria, Asylums, etc., so that there are many additional openings for those who wish to enter as probationers.

Ex-V.A.D.s and well-educated girls of good physique, therefore, who wish information with regard to vacancies are invited to communicate with the Secretary of the Scottish Nurses Demobilisation and Resettlement Committee, 112, George Street, Edinburgh.

Nurses resident in the city and county of Cork have held a most enthusiastic meeting and formed the Cork Nurses' Association. The Chairman congratulated the gathering on the fine attendance, and said there were many reasons why trained nurses and probationer nurses should combine and unite, as their fellow-men and women, in all spheres of life, were doing, and, as a matter of fact, had done already. They were all familiar with the success that attended such organisations, which were solely responsible for the better living conditions of the workers. Nurses, on the other hand, who were up to the present unorganised, carried on their arduous duties under difficult conditions. This was a lamentable state of affairs, and it depended upon themselves how long it was going to last. The organisation which they intended forming that day would remedy all that.

A delegate drew attention to the ever-increasing number of untrained persons who were being sent out daily on cases from the different agencies in town. This was not only detrimental to the nursing profession, but even more so to the general public, who had to pay the same fees to an unskilled person. After considerable discussion it was unanimously decided to communicate with the nursing agencies in town, requesting them to remove from their "waiting lists" the names of untrained ladies. In connection with this it was further decided that trained nurses would, in future, refuse to work with unqualified women.

The meeting then proceeded to elect a committee. The members of the committee were

given full powers, together with the officers, to draw up rules and other details for the proper working of the Association.

### FLORENCE NIGHTINGALE MEDAL.

At an International Conference of Red Cross Societies held at Washington in 1912, it was decided to establish a medal both as a memorial to Miss Florence Nightingale, and to give international recognition to outstanding work by Trained Nurses in all parts of the world. A Committee was appointed by the International Red Cross Committee in Geneva to make the necessary arrangements. It was originally decided that not more than six of these medals should be distributed, either annually or in alternate years, to the six most deserving Trained Nurses, to be selected by the International Committee from recommendations submitted by the various national Red Cross Societies, accompanied by particulars showing the grounds on which each recommendation is made. Owing to the outbreak of the war in 1914, the first awards of this medal were postponed, and the International Committee have now informed the British Red Cross Society that it is intended to award fifty of these medals in January, 1920, and has requested the Society to submit their recommendations before the end of the year 1919.

To enable the Society to comply with this request it is necessary to ask that the names of Trained Nurses who have, especially during the war, proved themselves to be exceptionally deserving of recognition, may be brought to the notice of the British Red Cross Society. Full particulars of the services on which the recommendations are made and the names of the officials who can personally vouch for the accuracy of the information given should be forwarded as early as possible, and in no case later than November 30th, for consideration and selection. Recommendations should be sent (marked on the outside "Nightingale Medal") to the Secretary, British Red Cross Society, 83, Pall Mall, London, S.W.1.

#### QUALIFICATIONS FOR MEDAL.

The medal, which will be issued early next year by the International Red Cross Committee at Geneva, is in silver and enamel consisting of a portrait of Florence Nightingale, "The Lady with the Lamp," with the words "Ad Memoriam Florence Nightingale, 1820-1910." On the reverse surrounding a space reserved for the name of the recipient, is the inscription: "Pro vera misericordia et cara humanitate perennis decor universalis." The medal is attached to a white and red ribbon on which is displayed a laurel wreath in green enamel surrounding a red cross on a white ground. The distribution of the medal is confined to fully-trained nurses who must hold a full nursing certificate from a recognised training school of not less than 100 beds.

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