

THE NURSING PAGEANT.

As indicated in a recent issue of *THE BRITISH JOURNAL OF NURSING*, the Consultative Committee of the Royal British Nurses' Association is organising a Pageant illustrative of the Evolution of Trained Nursing. It will be remembered that this Committee is composed of Delegates from the various Societies affiliated to the Corporation and of its Executive Committee.

Mrs. Bedford Fenwick has placed at the disposal of the R.B.N.A. the text of "The Pageant and Masque on the Evolution of Trained Nursing, and the Right of Life to Health," and it is hoped that she will take an active part in organising the pageant.

Should the Registration Bill pass at an early date, no more fitting and dignified way could be chosen to celebrate the achievement of thirty years of effort—the achievement of having secured a mandate from the State at last that nursing shall indeed rank among the professions.

The uses and possibilities of pageantry have been too much lost sight of in these modern days of rush and hurry. The printing press, the platform and the ever-changing picture palace have ousted the beautiful symbolism of the olden time. Victory Balls may prove a useful outlet for the feelings of a certain type of mind, when a season for rejoicing arrives, but we are glad to know that, should victory be won after the "thirty years' war" the nurses' Societies will celebrate it in a dignified and impressive manner. From an educational point of view alone it will be worth every nurse's while to make some sacrifice to attend the Pageant that she may watch the unfolding in stately symbolism of the gradual evolution of her profession, each of us will go from it, back to the daily round of nursing work, with a sense of reverence, of a great responsibility to the profession and to those fine courageous spirits who, by sacrifice and striving and singleness of purpose in early ages of the world's history and in later times will prove to be the inspiration in the future of others whose privilege it will be to uphold all the fine traditions of nursing, who, having obtained the State's recognition and protection for the profession, must be responsible now for making it take the place it ought to have in the forefront of all women's professions and employments.

TWO BOROUGH COUNCILLORS.

It is interesting to note that two out of the three nurses who have been returned as Borough Councillors are members of the R.B.N.A. Mrs. Reidy was successful in Stepney, and our readers will remember the account we gave of her splendid public work a short time ago when reporting a meeting at which a presentation was made to her by the citizens of Stepney. Miss Kent is extremely well known and popular among all our readers, and we predict for both ladies a career of great usefulness to the boroughs whose interests they are to serve.

APPOINTMENT.

Miss Helen B. Simpson has been appointed to a post in the Civil Hospital, Khartoum, and her work will be in the wards for acute cases, while occasionally she will go into the country to do maternity work. Miss Simpson received her general training at the Middlesex Hospital.

SOUTH AUSTRALIAN BRANCH.

The half-yearly Report of the South Australian Branch is quite satisfactory. It records the pleasure with which the members of the Australian Branch have heard of the award of a Second Class Red Cross to one of its members, Miss Davidson, when a sister, and later, on her advancement to the position of Matron, of a First Class Red Cross. Since the last award Miss Davidson has received the decoration of the C.B.E. We unite with the Branch Association in offering her and Miss Burns, who received the Second Class Red Cross, our warm congratulations.

It is with deep regret that the South Australian Branch report the death of Dr. A. C. Magarey, their much respected Vice-Chairman, and the Executive Committee of the parent Association have forwarded to the daughter Association an expression of sympathy. We also note with sincere regret the death of Miss Williams, of the Adelaide Hospital. Both of these members fell victims to the scourge of influenza.

The Report notes the growing popularity of the Trained Nurses in South Australia, and we hope that ere long South Australia may also be included in the list of countries where the profession of Nursing is standardised by the State.

THE CONQUEST OF THE ATLANTIC BY AIR.

Extraordinary care is, of necessity, devoted to every detail in the equipment of aeroplanes and airships for such epoch-making journeys as the Transatlantic flight. It is interesting, therefore, to note that every aeroplane, seaplane and airship which has crossed, or attempted to cross, the Atlantic was equipped with "Tabloid" First-Aid, supplied by Messrs. Boroughs, Wellcome & Co. The reason is explained in Sir John Alcock's report: "They are the only possible medical equipments for airmen."

ANNUAL SUBSCRIPTIONS.

We remind our members of the annual subscriptions due on January 1st, and urge that, in consideration of the heavy expenses which have arisen during the year, and which, as can well be understood, have been unavoidable, the nurses will forward their subscriptions early in order to avoid extra work and expense in the matter of sending out reminders.

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