

persons to help nurses financially in an emergency, but that they should calmly accept the present condition of affairs, and do nothing to place the trained nurse, as she ought to be, in a self-supporting and self-respecting position in the body politic, is, in our opinion, revolving in a vicious circle. All charitable schemes for trained nurses should be co-ordinated, and quietly managed by a responsible body, on which they themselves are represented. We note with regret, in connection with the Newcastle scheme, the usual list of titled patronesses, and collections from dances, etc. As we have said, we are being snowed under by charity, and it is cutting at the root of the financial stability of the profession.

Twelve to fourteen hours' work a day, without an interval for rest, is what the nurses under the Ongar Guardians have been doing. But now the Board have decided to increase their staff, if accommodation can be found.

The medical officer said eight hours a day was long enough.

Miss Annie Firth, with two friends, is opening a private nursing home at Devonia, Dane Hill, Torquay, at the end of the present month, where they will receive all kinds of cases, but hope to specialize in maternity work. We learn that the house is delightfully situated, fitted throughout with radiators as well as fireplaces, has two bathrooms, and all modern sanitary conveniences. The house is not far from the station, and in a sheltered position with sea views. Those who know the lovely colouring of Torquay realize what a delight these will be to invalids. All three ladies are fully trained nurses, and two certified midwives.

The Russian-Scandinavian Information Bureau reports:—

Owing to the Red Terror in Petrograd an epidemic of suicides has broken out. The chemists' shops have been prohibited from selling ammonia, as most of the suicides have been committed with this drug.

Even the Bolshevik papers are expressing alarm over the ever-increasing spread of the various epidemics which are raging in the town. All persons with a medical education, including Sisters of Mercy, are prohibited from leaving Petrograd under penalty of being shot without trial.

Although there is already a Nurses' Club in Dublin, organised by the Irish Nurses' Association, a further breach in nursing ranks is being occasioned by the Irish Branch of the College of Nursing, Ltd., starting another. This policy, inspired from London headquarters, of ignoring all that the Irish Nurses' Association has been doing for years for the union and co-operation of Irish nurses, is the determined policy of the College, and is one of its most objectionable attitudes. So far as plagiarism is concerned, whether it be in connection with State Registration or any other work, it is an unwritten law, that until thirty years after the pioneers dug, delved and planted, and the "anti's" realised they were being left, that nothing had been done for the organisation of the nursing profession. This attempt to grab the results of the brains and labour of others is, in our opinion, the most contemptible feature of the College policy. Failing to crush out the professional conscience and effort of the organised nurses' Associations—"come let us avail ourselves of the result, and assume they do not exist"—is their predatory war-cry, *vide* the Matrons' Council, whose constitution they lifted without a qualm!

We do not wonder that when the College Council adopted the same policy in connection with the National Council of Women's enquiry into the Economic Position of Nurses, that its spirited President did not hesitate to expose these reprehensible tactics in an interim report to the Council, at its annual meeting at Leicester. She did well to decline to be placed in a false and invidious position.

THE NATIONAL COUNCIL OF WOMEN AND THE ECONOMIC POSITION OF NURSES.

The National Council of Women has summoned a Conference for July 24th, to receive the Report of the Special Committee on the Economic Position of Nurses, in the drafting of which Mrs. Ogilvie Gordon, the President, and Dr. Crouch have taken great interest. In an interim report on this question, presented at the Annual Meeting at Leicester last month, it was stated:—

"In the desire to obtain some real insight into the conditions existing in hospitals, infirmaries, etc., an extremely comprehensive questionnaire was drawn up by the Special Committee, and circulated among the chief London and provincial hospitals, cottage hos-

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