

addressed the meeting on the subject of "Some Possibilities under the Nurses' Registration (Scotland) Act," which, he said, was largely an enabling Act, providing opportunities and opening up possibilities for the Nursing Profession to secure proper conditions. It was beyond question that hitherto the nursing profession as a whole had been over-worked and inadequately remunerated. The time had come when matters should be put right. The operation of the Act would enable that to be done, but the nurses themselves must do it. Dr. John Patrick and Dr. A. K. Chalmers also spoke.

### IRISH NURSES' ASSOCIATION.

At a meeting of the Irish Nurses' Association, held at 34, St. Stephen's Green, Dublin, on April 10th, the new President, Miss Hezlett, R.R.C., presided. After the routine business an invitation was received from Mrs. Kenneth Stewart, of 52, Wimpole Street, London, to meet on April 18th Her Royal Highness Princess Christian at a Musical At-home. The members much regretted their inability to accept this kind invitation owing to the distance from London. The following were appointed to form the Finance Committee for the ensuing year:—Miss Carson-Rae, Miss O'Flynn, and Miss Haire.

### HEALTH WEEK.

MAY 2nd—8th, 1920.

The first week in May has been reserved for the celebration of Health Week, the immediate object of which is to focus public attention for one week in the year on matters of Health, and to arouse that sense of personal responsibility for Health, without which all public work, whether by the Government or Local Authorities, must fall far short of its aims.

It is proposed that the dominant idea for 1920 shall be "Self Help," and the consideration of what each individual can do for himself and his neighbour in securing a healthy life.

The movement was instituted in 1912 and in 1914 the Royal Sanitary Institute, 90, Buckingham Palace Road, S.W., appointed a committee to undertake its future organisation.

The King and Queen are the Patrons of this first post-war Health Week, and the Lord Mayor of London Chairman of the General Committee.

The ultimate objects to be kept in view are to secure the recognition of the fact that disease is a thing which can and should be prevented; to impart sound information as to public and personal hygiene, and to build up a public opinion which will not tolerate a high disease rate or excessive infant mortality, and which feels, as a personal reproach, the sight of an ill-nourished or neglected child.

The manner in which it is observed in each district is to be determined by a Local Committee, on which, amongst others, the medical profession and the nursing profession should be represented.

### THE "NURSE JULIET" SCANDAL.

The "Nurse Juliet" scandal in connection with the *Daily Telegraph* Shilling Fund "For our Nurses" received notice in the House of Commons on Tuesday, March 30th, in connection with the treatment of War Nurses.

#### CHARITY FOR NURSES.

Mr. Grundy (Labour, Rother Valley) asked the Secretary for War "whether his attention had been drawn to the public appeals being made, in connection with the Nation's Fund for Nurses, for charity for nurses who gave their services to the country during the War; whether the treatment of these nurses had been such as to render appeals for charity necessary; whether he knew or would ascertain the identity of the voluntary aid detachment nurse Juliet, referred to in the public appeal as a nurse who went through the War and who now suffered from bad eyesight and shattered nerves and was in precarious circumstances; and whether, in order to remove doubts, he could make a statement as to the treatment accorded to nurses who served during the War."

Sir A. Williamson (Financial Secretary to the War Office) replied: "Nurses temporarily employed by the War Office during the war have received pay and allowances on appropriate scales, and have been treated in case of disability on the same lines as members of the Queen Alexandra's Imperial Military Nursing Service. The War Office is not responsible for nurses employed by the British Red Cross Society or other organisations. If the nurse to whom the honourable Member refers was employed by the War Office, and he is not satisfied that she has received proper treatment perhaps he will let me have further particulars."

Mr. Grundy has done public service in directing attention to this subject, and we hope he will not desist from his inquiries until it is probed to the bottom. It will be noticed that Mr. Grundy's question, addressed to the Secretary for War, was directed to two points: (1) Whether the treatment of nurses who gave their services to their country during the war had been such as to render appeals for charity on their behalf necessary; and (2) whether he knew, or would ascertain, the identity of "Nurse Juliet"

Sir Archibald Williamson did not give a direct reply to either question; the inference from his reply to question No. 1 is that nurses temporarily employed by the War Office are appropriately provided for in case of disability, in which case there is obviously no necessity for an appeal for charity upon their behalf day after day in the public press, not only to the public but primarily to "the men in the Navy and Army who know best what these fine women did in the war, the men who were the direct recipients of the devoted service which these women so readily gave."

If the fact is that provision is made, as it should be, by the State for nurses disabled in the war,

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