

NURSING ECHOES.

Lord Burnham, the proprietor of the *Daily Telegraph*, refused on Monday to see a deputation of representative nurses, members of the organized Nurses' Societies, who claimed the right to place their views before him concerning the degrading "Shilling Fund for Nurses," which he has launched upon the public without consulting the nurses themselves. Presumably Lord Burnham imagines that the cadging policy of the College of Nursing Company can be thrust upon the Nursing Profession at large, without protest. He will find that he is mistaken.

During a recent visit to Birmingham, Sir Arthur Stanley, speaking as the guest of the Rotary Club on the reasons why voluntary effort should continue in peace time, said, among other things:—"There was the question of nurses. At present many villages enjoyed the services of fully-trained nurses whose time was mainly employed in doing small jobs, such as binding up cuts, &c., which anybody could do. He suggested that the great and well-organised system of the V.A.D.'s should be used to carry out this service. The ordinary V.A.D. nurse could do nine-tenths of the work at present done by fully-trained nurses in the villages. In the market towns or larger villages these latter women should be installed to co-operate with and direct the work of the V.A.D.'s in the surrounding districts."

We wonder how this programme appeals to the thoroughly trained district nurses who are members of the College of Nursing, Ltd., of which Sir Arthur Stanley is chairman. Also, the villagers who enjoy trained nursing skill when sick may also have a word to say on the question.

This suggestion of depriving the Profession of Nursing of one of its most interesting branches of work, also touches intimately nursing economics, and it is just here that a Nurses' Trade Union needs to step in and ask the reason why? The question would be especially pertinent, as V.A.D.'s proved a very costly luxury during the war, especially on foreign service, where the cream of the work (as in Italy) was allotted to these untrained women. If rural district nursing is to be handed over to occupy the spare time of young women of social position, God help the poor!

The Matron of St. Mary's Hospital for Women and Children, Plaistow, is most anxious

to get in touch with *all* past nurses, so that they may learn that a grand bazaar is being organised by Lady Helen Seymour at Claridge's Hotel on Thursday, April 15th, for the special fund for building the new home for the nurses. The Matron hopes that every nurse will endeavour to send something for the hospital stall, so that it may be very heavily laden with articles for sale. No matter what is sent, plain or fancy articles, paintings, dolls, toys, in fact, any and everything, will be most acceptable—doubly so if all are plainly marked with the prices at which they are to be sold and sent direct to the Hospital. £18,000 is very urgently needed to complete the fund.

The Matron and Nurses of the Western Infirmary, Glasgow, held a very successful sale of work recently in aid of the Nurses' Memorial to King Edward VII, Chamberlain Road, Edinburgh, the proceeds of which amounted to fully £420. A similar effort was made by the Matron and Nurses of the Glasgow Royal Infirmary, the receipts in this instance, amounting to £40, being allocated for the purpose of providing coal for the home.

Lady Arnott, D.B.E., presided, on January 28th, at the formal opening of the newly established Nurses' Club, 54, Fitzwilliam Square, Dublin.

Speaking in support of the Indian Nurses' Hostel Fund, by permission of Lady Minto at 95, Lancaster Gate, Lady Carmichael said that when she first went to Bengal in 1912 she visited all the hospitals of the Presidency, and found that there were no nurses except in Calcutta. Even at Dacca, where there was a medical school, both men and women passed out from their medical training without knowing what nursing meant. Matrons were put into four hospitals, but it was impossible to fill them with English nurses owing to the cost of bringing them out. They started a scheme by which Indian nurses were trained in certain hospitals in Calcutta under English nurses. The difficulty was that the Indian girls themselves did not care for nursing as a profession. There were strong social prejudices against it. Beginning with country-born Anglo-Indian girls, a certain amount of training was given, but they had still to raise the profession so that high-caste girls or widows would take it up. After a good deal of trouble, five high-caste young women entered Dufferin Hospital for training. It was hoped to start a hostel for

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