

Day received official recognition from the Order of St. John of Jerusalem, which authorised all assistance in its power, and that Dame Sarah Swift, the Matron-in-Chief of the Joint War Committee, helped at the Depot at the Mansion House, and that practically every London hospital consented to have a stall within its precincts, and to display our posters.

Further, wherever they had nurses to spare, they permitted them to sell flowers on behalf of the Fund."

Quite so.

Yet we venture to voice the opinion of the free minority of the nursing profession and to repeat, that if people really wish to help poor members of a profession, they should put their hands in their own pockets and not subject them to the indignity of street begging.

Sir Richard says many other things, amongst them "that those who wish to place the nursing profession on a pinnacle, which denies to the public the opportunity of expressing its gratitude, are dangerously near a policy of snobbery," and ends up with the following admonition: "May I express the hope that when preparing your editorial notes in the future, you will remember that the greatest of the Graces is 'Charity,' and that never was it more necessary than at present that the spirit of charity should prevail in all matters connected with the whole community, including the nursing profession."

We agree; but *we*, as a nurse, prefer the charity which begins at home, and not on the pavement; and the colossal snobbery of the present methods misnamed "charity" have apparently caused that exploited "Grace" to hide her diminished head.

All the same, you may safely send a donation quite unostentatiously to the chairman of the Edith Cavell Homes of Rest for Nurses to 25, Victoria Street, Westminster.

#### COMING EVENTS.

November 12th.—Meeting General Nursing Council for England and Wales. Ministry of Health. 2 p.m.

November 13th.—Nurses' Missionary League sale of Work. Gifts to Miss Richardson, Sloane Gardens House. 52, Lower Sloane Street, S.W.

November 16th and 17th.—Joint Conference. Subject: "The Care of Crippled and Invalid Children." Council Chamber, Guildhall, E.C. 10.30 to 1 p.m., and 2.30 to 4.30 p.m.

#### A WORD FOR THE WEEK.

"HEREAFTER."

"While life entities live for ever, thus giving us the eternal life for which many of us hope, this means little to you or me if, when we come to the stage known as death, our personality simply breaks up into separate units which soon combine with others to form new structures. If entities go about the universe as individuals, I very much fear our personality does not survive."—Edison.

#### LETTERS TO THE EDITOR.

*Whilst cordially inviting communications upon all subjects for these columns, we wish it to be distinctly understood that we do not IN ANY WAY hold ourselves responsible for the opinions expressed by our correspondents.*

#### OGLING FOR PENCE.

To the Editor of THE BRITISH JOURNAL OF NURSING.

DEAR MADAM,—With reference to recent correspondence on the subject of "begging for nurses," I have this morning been disgusted by the sight of a much be-curved, high-heeled vision in nurse's uniform, with a trayful of ivy leaves, ogling for pence at Holborn Circus.

To my question she replied that she "was a trained nurse."

If so, what a pity!

Yours faithfully,

MABEL DIXON,

(late Q.A.I.M.N.S. Reserve).

2, Gerrard Street, Islington.

#### THE HOURS OF EMPLOYMENT BILL.

To the Editor of THE BRITISH JOURNAL OF NURSING.

DEAR EDITOR,—I have read with much pleasure and profit Miss Macdonald's letter on the Hours of Employment Bill in yesterday's issue of the B.J.N.

You have also pointed out to nurses many times the need for individual expression on this and other things of vital importance respecting legislation regarding their work. If you will allow me I should like to emphasize this, and also to express my own opinion.

I have always held that if legislation is necessary in order to protect the hours of labour regarding one class of workers, it is necessary for all workers. I would include all nurses, even those working in private houses. I have very considerable experience regarding these last, and I believe that their times are open to exploitation more than any other set of nurses. But, I am the Superintendent, and the matter concerns the individual nurse much more than me; therefore, I would beg all nurses, hospital nurses, health centre nurses, district nurses, Poor-Law nurses, maternity nurses—every nurse—to think for herself, leave those in authority over her in this matter, and having thought, take a postcard and write "Aye" or "No," according to her individual idea respecting the Hours of Employment Bill, and the Employment Act. I believe, dear Editor, that you will still welcome these postcards.

Yours very sincerely,

C. A. LITTLE

(Superintendent, Hull Association of Trained Nurses.)

#### "HOUSE OF ST. ULTAN."

To the Editor of THE BRITISH JOURNAL OF NURSING.

MADAM,—May I trespass on your space to thank Miss Wortabet for the beautiful, accurate, and

[previous page](#)

[next page](#)