

NURSING ECHOES.

We would reassure several ardent registrationists who have written to us on the subject, that as soon as the Rules drafted by the General Nursing Council have been approved by the Minister, they will be laid before each House of Parliament forthwith for twenty-one days, when they will be available for consideration. Our correspondents may feel assured, that the members of their free organisations who have the honour to be members of the Council, will most earnestly endeavour to safeguard their interests in every particular.

Mrs. Bedford Fenwick, President of the Registered Nurses' Parliamentary Council, 431, Oxford Street, London, W., will be pleased to hear from members of the Nursing Profession who approve of, and are prepared to work for Rank for Service Nurses. Now that the members of the Canadian Army Nursing Service and the American Army Nurse Corps have both been given the requisite status, insignia and authority, as officers, to enforce orders for carrying out their instructions, it is time we petitioned the Home Government to grant such rank to our own Service Nurses.

The Dowager Lady Airlie held an "At Home," on July 15th, at 3, Grosvenor Place, supported by Dame Ethel Becher and Dame Maud McCarthy, to discuss a scheme for establishing a United Nurses' Services Club. Lady Airlie said that the idea was a response to the wish expressed by nurses who worked in France, and she was convinced that Queen Alexandra would do everything in her power to forward it. Sir Alfred Keogh supported the proposal, and Sir Anthony Bowlby said that if the club could be started free from debt it would run itself. Other speakers urged that such a central meeting place was badly needed by nurses, and should be run on the lines of a first-class residential ladies' club, and at least twenty bedrooms would be required.

No doubt such a club would be very popular. The only question in these days is the matter of expense. To run it on the lines of a first-class residential ladies' club would in London necessitate an annual subscription of from £4 to £6. Men pay £10 to £20, and pay for smokes and wine. We are glad, however, to hear an effort is to be made to organize such a club for nurses, and wish it all success.

John Bull asks: "Who is responsible for holding up the nurses of the 24th Stationary

Hospital, Kantara, Egypt? They have been out there for nearly three years without home leave, and though they signed their demobilisation papers two months ago, they are still held up. Plenty of boats leave for home, but the berths are all taken by civilians and officers' wives who have only been out for the winter. The nurses are already in a poor state of health; to keep them at their posts of toil is a positive cruelty. These slaves of duty have well earned the right to be released at once." Surely *John Bull* realises how all-powerful social influence is where working women (even the "nation's noblest") are concerned? What action is the Nursing Board at the War Office taking in this connection?—Or perhaps it knows nothing about it?

Miss Woodward, M.R.B.N.A., who receives a few paying guests in her home at Redhill, is removing to the next house, "Esperance," 164, Station Road, Redhill, Surrey. The house is within easy reach of churches, shops, post and telegraph office, and the beautiful common. The comfort of those not strong is specially studied. Inclusive terms per week are £2 5s. or £2 10s., according to the bedroom which is occupied.

The League News, of the Bradford Royal Infirmary Nurses' League, for 1920, appears in a dainty buff cover, and is full of interesting matter. The late Matron, Mrs. Meredith, writes the Foreword, in which she says: "We are justly proud of the splendid service of the Nurses during the war, and the true history of all the help they rendered, and the hardships that many of them uncomplainingly endured, can never be told. . . . It is more than ever necessary that Nurses should proceed with their work with the same energy and high ideals as during the war, and on every side the field widens. The schemes introduced by the Ministry of Health should open many fresh avenues of nursing employment, and our Nurses will require to be thoroughly well equipped with greater knowledge if they are to take up successfully the greater responsibilities that the future will bring."

The President, Miss Jessie W. Davies—so well known as an expert trainer of nurses—announced that the nursing staff, with the aid of the Ladies' Committee, are organising a grand bazaar, to be held early in November, in aid of the funds which are so much needed for the extension of the Nurses' Hostel at Field

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