

## NURSES' MISSIONARY LEAGUE.

A Day of Thought and Prayer will be held on Friday, March 18th, 1921, at University Hall, Gordon Square, W.C.; it will be conducted by the Rev. E. A. Miller (formerly Chaplain Bradford Royal Infirmary).

10.30-12.15.—DEVOTIONAL ADDRESS.—Address by Miss Sparshott, C.B.E., R.R.C. (Lady Superintendent Royal Infirmary, Manchester). Subject: "Fear." Prayer and intercession for all Hospital Nurses.

3-4.30.—DEVOTIONAL ADDRESS.—Address by Miss A. E. Macdonald. Subject: "The Spirit of Service: The Sphere and Influence of the Private Nurse." Intercession for Private and District Nurses, and all engaged in School Nursing, Rescue and other Social work.

7.30-8.30.—ADDRESS by the Rev. E. A. Miller. Subject: "Discipleship." Intercession for Nurses in Mission Hospitals and other work on the Mission field.

Tea at 4.30.

Copies of this invitation can be obtained from the Secretary, Miss H. Y. Richardson, 135, Ebury Street, S.W. 1.

## THE PROFESSIONAL UNION OF TRAINED NURSES.

### Members Please Note!

The Annual General Meeting of the Professional Union of Trained Nurses will be held at the "Plane Tree," 106, Great Russell Street, W.C. 1 (near Y.M.C.A. Central Building), on Tuesday, March 29th, 1921, at 4 p.m.

Tea, price one shilling per head, can be obtained by notifying the Hon. Secretary one week in advance.

### A MEDICAL AND NURSING ALLIANCE.

The Medico-Political Union and the Professional Union of Trained Nurses have formed an Alliance. While each Union retains its separate identity and the entire management of its affairs, an Alliance Committee has been formed, consisting of an equal number of medical men and working nurses, to consider those matters which may be of common interest to both. A medical man was elected to the Chair of this Committee, and the Hon. Secretary of the Professional Union of Trained Nurses is to act as Honorary Secretary.

One item of interest on the first Agenda was:—

"To consider what means should be taken to bring about a better understanding between the Nursing and Medical Professions."

When the P.U.T.N. was first formed, we were told we should have every doctor in the country against us. Our experience has been otherwise. No medical man, so far, has expressed to us disapproval of the Union, and many have spoken of their interest at hearing that such a thing had been formed.

So far from an attitude of opposition, they have shown not only willingness but keenness to help in our fight for freedom. One proof of this is that the Medico-Political Union have offered space for our business in the columns of their very progressive weekly Journal, and we feel it to be extremely generous of them. As to Nurses, it means "fresh fields and pastures new."

To both Professions, we think nothing but good can come from this Alliance, and perhaps in the future nurses and medical men will be able to look back to this Committee as a milestone marking out the beginning of a very definite period on the road to mutual help and understanding between the two Professions.

MAUDE MACCALLUM,  
Hon. Secretary.

If this new Alliance can promote professional loyalty between the medical and nursing professions it will be most beneficial. Our experience has been that nurses have been most loyal to doctors; but where their economic interests are concerned medical practitioners have not always supported trained nurses. Unless medical practitioners had agreed throughout the war to the wrongful system of placing untrained Commandants in control of professional women, and ignorant V.A.D.'s in charge of work for which they were not trained, the pernicious Red Cross system could not have been enforced. Now the peaceful penetration of the V.A.D. into National Health work is a very serious danger looming in the near future. Backed up by social influence and public money, the V.A.D. without sufficient hospital training will be thrust into all sorts of work, unless the medical profession takes a determined stand in loyalty to the sick poor, and the sister profession of nursing.

We welcome the Alliance, and hope great things from it.

## THE COLLEGE "PLEDGE."

Miss Rundle, Secretary of the College of Nursing, Ltd., has been attempting to explain away, in the *American Journal of Nursing*, the pledge given to nurses that if they paid a guinea and were on the College Register they would *ipso facto*, without further fee, be on the State Register when an Act was passed. Incidentally, she accuses THE BRITISH JOURNAL OF NURSING of suppressing part of the paragraph in the College "Reasons Why Nurses Should Join the College," and thus misleading its readers. Miss Dock, in criticising Miss Rundle's explanations, in the *American Journal of Nursing* points out that THE BRITISH JOURNAL OF NURSING has more than once published in full, the complete text of all the College articles, including the "pledge" paragraph alluded to.

Personally we see no use in attempting to disprove the written word. The College Council made this promise to some 18,000 nurses, and what is more, it has publicly acknowledged its legal liability. Every nurse who paid a guinea to the

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