

of order and beauty is encouraged in such a way as to react on home life. It aims at supplying means of spiritual growth and of self-discipline. The children are admitted at the age of 2, preference being given to the families who stand in greatest need. The need for these schools in the countless poverty-stricken districts of London is urgent. A Government grant is given for each approved school which amounts to half the yearly expenditure. The other half has to be raised voluntarily.

The Mission Hall in which the school is now held may, at any time, be taken over by the Lambeth Council for building purposes in connection with their housing scheme, and in view of this the committee feel the urgent necessity of securing a freehold site close by where they could, later on, erect a simple and economical building. To purchase this site £425 is needed. It is in the centre of this slum area, and would provide also a small playground for the children, which they at present lack. The advantages of this would be incalculable. The Marchioness of Carisbrooke pointed out in a recent speech how the school had justified its existence in a very remarkable way. She said: "The children enter ill-nourished and weakly, but after three months' attendance at the school they are almost unrecognisable, having benefited enormously both in health and character. The success of the school in its relation to the parents has been equally marked. They show great eagerness to profit by the experience and knowledge of the directrix of the school, and the mothers flock there to learn how to cook the simple nourishing food given to the children, how to cut and make simple garments, &c."

It is hoped that generous donations and subscriptions will make it possible to start a number of such schools, and I shall gratefully acknowledge cheques or postal orders, which should be crossed "London Nursery School Fund." I specially appeal to little children to assist their less fortunate comrades and so ensure for them a happy childhood.

Yours truly,

BELLE RENNIE, *Hon. Treasurer.*

35, Cornwall Gardens, S.W. 7.

STATE REGISTRATION OF DUTCH NURSES.

"Nosokómos," Nederlandsche Vereeniging tot bevordering der belangen van Verpleegsters en Verplegers, P. C. Hooftstraat 97.

DEAR COMRADES,—We have the pleasure to inform you that an Act has passed the Dutch Parliament to provide for the Registration of Nurses for the Sick. This Act protects the Certificate. Only they who have the Certificate have the right to call themselves "Verpleegster" or "Verpleger" (nurse of the sick), and to carry the Badge. Only the certificate is available, given after an examination according to a programme fixed by the Minister (the requirements for examination are not fixed by law, but will be fixed by the Minister). The examination councils

are constituted by experts of the hospital schools and some other experts appointed by the Minister. Every hospital acknowledged by the Minister has the right of examination. The Badge is given by the Minister. You see, only the first step has been taken. This Act does not give any right to the nurses to appoint a member of a Council, nor have they got any right to determine in any way the requirements for examination. Still, we are glad with the Act. We may thank our efforts for it. During twenty years we were working for protection of our profession in order to raise it, and we will go on till our wishes are fulfilled.

Yours very truly,

M. BERKELBACH V. D. SPRENKEL.

Amsterdam.

["Nosokómos," the National Association of Dutch Nurses, is to be heartily congratulated on this "first step" towards the self-government of nurses in the Netherlands. We offer hearty congratulations through THE BRITISH JOURNAL OF NURSING to our Dutch colleagues. The United Kingdom Acts are by no means too progressive, but future generations of Registered Nurses throughout the world must continue to strive for the complete self-government exercised by the learned professions of men. It will come in time with self-sacrifice and tenacity of purpose—virtues we know possessed by members of "Nosokómos."—ED.]

KERNELS FROM CORRESPONDENCE.

ENTANGLING ALLIANCES.

C. V. T.—"I am glad to see from 'Splendid Isolation' that the General Nursing Council intends to keep itself from 'entangling alliances.' I am a private nurse, and see quite plainly that my branch of work will soon be seriously embarrassed by the competition of District Nursing Associations being compelled to institute visiting nursing for the better classes—and thus secure funds to carry on their work. So if the G.N.C. had associated itself with the Central District Nursing Council for London, as invited to do, its position would not have been impartial as far as the economic position of private nurses is concerned, and we should have felt aggrieved. Mrs. Fenwick is quite right, the G.N.C. as a semi-judicial body must hold the balance of power without favour between all classes of nurses."

A BEAUTIFUL DIPLOMA.

F.F.N.C. Sister.—"I am delighted with my most beautiful Diploma in recognition of services rendered to France, from the Comité Britannique de la Croix Rouge Française. It shall be very handsomely framed, and will remind me of three of the very happiest years of my life."

PRIZE COMPETITION QUESTIONS.

April 23rd.—What are the principal counter-irritants, and how are they applied?

April 30th.—What congenital defects may be present in newly-born infants and how are they usually treated? What are the toxæmias of infancy, and what are their causes?

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