

### NURSING ECHOES.

Miss Isabel Macdonald will speak on "The Royal British Nurses' Association's Club and its Place in Professional Organisation" at the quarterly meeting of the Matrons' Council, on April 30th, at 2, Portland Place, W. The meeting is at 3 p.m. Short Address at 4, and Tea, by kind invitation of Mrs. Walter Spencer, at 4.30. Miss M. Heather-Bigg, R.R.C., will be in the chair.

A prominent member of our profession in Canada writes to a member of the Registered Nurses' Parliamentary Council:—

"I have your letter of March 10th, *re* the appeal being made by Lady Harvey on behalf of distressed British nurses, and am very glad to have your explanation.

"This matter has received a great deal of publicity in the Canadian press. Lady Martin Harvey wrote a long letter to the Winnipeg papers, and wished the Graduate Nurses' Association of Canada to apologise to her in the public press because they have protested against her campaign.

"The Women's Canadian Club held a meeting and endorsed Lady Martin Harvey's work, but I notice there is no sign of an apology coming from the Graduate Nurses' Association of Canada, and the Women's Canadian Club are all lay women and society women.

"I can assure you that wherever possible I will express the views and sentiments of the British Nurses regarding this matter, which I was unable to do before, as I did not understand the situation. It seemed a somewhat undignified situation, and I am very glad that the British nurses have put themselves on record, and I will be pleased to use my influence on their behalf.

"I am hoping that the day is not far distant when we will have a closer understanding between the graduate nurses of Canada and those of the Old Country. I think we need something in the nature of an Empire Conference, so many of our Canadian nurses look to the United States as the home of good nursing, when the honour really belongs to the Mother Country. We mingle more with our American cousins than with our British sisters."

We are specially interested in the desire for closer understanding between the nurses of the Empire, as we had more than one "good talk"—which he enjoyed so much with all manner of folk—with the late Sir Robert Morant on this

subject. He had it in mind to urge the Minister of Health (Dr. Addison), once the Nursing Acts were set going, to promote a Conference between the nursing educationists of the Empire, and to invite our American cousins to take part in it. Can't you hear him over the "phone," saying "Isn't it fun?" That was his happy faculty—to find fun in undertaking great new bits of work.

Let us hope the Empire Nursing Conference may take place at no distant date.

*Time and Tide*, an excellent fortnightly paper for women, is devoting considerable space to a discussion on the Nation's Fund for Nurses. Miss E. L. C. Eden, late Hon. Secretary of the National Union of Trained Nurses, voices the views and feelings of the working nurses' organisations with her usual lucidity and courtesy.

We hear that the Brentwood Board of Guardians is being severely criticised for its methods of summarily discharging several nurses, and that a question was down this week in the House of Commons on the subject.

The Edith Cavell Home erected by the "Foyer de la Femme" Charity in the Schaerbeek quarter of Brussels was opened on Sunday. It is intended for young girls coming from the country to work in Brussels, who will be able to secure board and lodging there at moderate rates.

The Ninth Ordinary General Meeting of the Irish Nurses' Co-operative Hostel Co., Ltd., was held at the Registered Office, 34, St Stephen's Green, Dublin, on April 14th, when the Directors' Report was received, showing that the net profit on the year's working, including dividends and interest, with the balance from the last account, made £146 17s. 1d. available for allocation, out of which the Directors recommended payment of a dividend on Share Capital of 5 per cent., free of Income Tax, leaving a balance to carry forward of £117 18s. 1d.

The Report states further that sixty-five nurses have been employed at different times during the year; ten resigned, five for family reasons, and five to take up other posts. Ten new nurses joined the staff. It has not been a good year for private nurses; the disturbed state of the country, and the difficulties in travelling partly accounted for the scarcity of work; but it has also been a very healthy year, illness has been of a mild type.

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