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**EDITORIAL.**

**THE HEADQUARTERS OF THE GENERAL NURSING COUNCIL.**

On Friday, June 10th, the Headquarters of the General Nursing Council for England and Wales at 12, York Gate, N.W., was opened by H.R.H. Princess Christian, and hereafter the Nursing Profession in this country will have a Professional Centre whose significance, we hope, will be appreciated by every nurse, not only in the kingdom but throughout the Empire.

This Statutory Council House in London, where all matters concerning the education and discipline of the Nursing Profession will be dealt with, is one with which nurses who have been permitted by Parliament to finance their own Council, and thus maintain their professional independence, should speedily become familiar.

The senior officials of the Council are highly qualified nurses, and are therefore capable of helping their colleagues where professional information is sought. The clerical staff, also, are all women, and we feel sure that the policy of the furnishing Committee in introducing bright and pleasant surroundings in the Council's House will commend itself to a sex which does its work best when its environment is congenial.

Women, and particularly nurses, are essentially home makers, and to spend one's days in a dull office, with dubiously clean windows, and no touch of beauty or homeliness about it, is naturally repugnant to them. British nurses have shown to the world in hospital wards not only the beauty of cleanliness, which they share with nurses of other nations, but how a sense of comfort and home can be made to pervade them which is essentially a

characteristic of British hospitals. We hope that at the Headquarters of the Profession in London its members will also give a demonstration of the domestic arts, and prove that a profession concerned with health believes that its foundation is exquisite cleanliness; that an office can be thoroughly equipped for business, and business can be conducted in a place harmoniously decorated and furnished, and kept sweet and fresh with soap and polish. Moreover, that this can be accomplished at no greater cost than that of the ordinary office, the result being achieved not by excessive expenditure, but by personal painstaking, carefulness and good taste.

We hope and believe, therefore, that the Nursing Profession are going to touch a new note in official life. They have come into their own, and will know how to find a means of self-expression in a House which they will be proud shall represent them, and their aspirations, to whoever may visit it from at home or abroad.

In our next issue we shall give a full report of the proceedings on Friday, June 10th, when the press will have had an opportunity of inspecting the House.

All good things come to those who wait, and those nurses who for the last thirty years have determined that their profession should be built on a sound and sure foundation, and preferred to wait rather than concede any vital principle, will realise with thankfulness that this foundation is well and truly laid. It remains for coming generations of nurses to build securely thereon, so that their efficiency may be increased, and their profession honoured throughout the world. They are the inheritors of great traditions. We have faith that they will deal with the problems of their own day in the spirit which such traditions inspire.

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