

The L.C.C. cannot interfere as to the claim of certain sections or influences claiming to represent the National Nursing Profession—this is an internal matter for the profession. So long as the objects registered are carried out, their position is met.

There would be no difficulty in arranging for a deputation of nurses to be received by the Local Government Committee, if desired, but it would be improbable for the position to be elaborated more than as above.

The primary position and question as to any section of any Profession, claiming to act on behalf of the whole Profession, in the case of the Nation's Fund for Nurses might be referred to the Charity Commissioners, but doubted any action on the part of the latter—the question was quite internal.

CHARITY COMMISSIONERS INTERVIEWED.

The Charity Commissioners were interviewed, and the question was fully discussed, and all files, documents and books relative were placed at disposal

These showed—

(1) The Fund emanated from the College of Nursing, Ltd., July, 1917, for the following objects:—

(a) To provide endowment funds and benevolent funds for the College of Nursing, Ltd., and for educational purposes thereto.

AN EXTENDED OBJECT.

On January 3rd, 1920, an extended "object" was registered as follows:—

"The Benevolent Fund to be administered by a special Committee for the benefit of all fully trained nurses, whether Members of the College or not."

This Committee has been called the Tribute Committee, and has been constituted by six members of same selected by the Committee of the Nation's Fund for Nurses, and six members selected by the College of Nursing, Ltd. The present members are as follows: Viscountess Cowdray (Treasurer), Winifred Countess of Arran, Dame Sidney Browne, Mrs. Louis Duveen, Miss Gibson, Miss Haldane, Miss Hogg, Miss Montgomery, Lady Rothschild, Dame Sarah Swift, Dame May Whitty (ex-Chairman), Sir Arthur Stanley (Chairman since 1920), Mrs. Smeaton Douglas (Secretary), 32, North Audley Street.

Correspondence showed that 60 to 70 grants were made to nurses weekly in sums from 10s. to £5 and also of institutional (sanatoria) benefits to nurses requiring such treatment.

BRITISH RED CROSS SOCIETY ALLOCATES £50,000.

Recently (July 20th, 1920) the sum of £50,000 has been allocated by the British Red Cross Society, the interest of which is to be vested in trustees, for the purpose of assisting nurses whose position has been affected by the war, and

The Trustees of this Special Fund are to be recognised as the members who form the Committee of the Benevolent Fund of the Nation's Fund for Nurses for each successive year of application, and

at the present time the foregoing list of names form the Trustees who administer the Red Cross Society's allocation of £50,000, and automatically, as time evolves, this Committee (whatever its membership may consist of) will be permanently regarded as the Trustees.

Amongst the Regulations of the Nation's Fund for Nurses are (1) Subscriptions may be earmarked for either purely benevolent purposes, or for direct purposes of the College of Nursing, Ltd.; which, in addition to its general work and cost, may provide educational facilities and scholarships, and eight King's College Scholarships are already, or being, so provided for.

At the inception of the Nation's Fund for Nurses, many press advertisements were published, but the general tone of them did not indicate that the Fund was not in the interest of the Nursing Profession as a whole, although the only object then registered was "to obtain funds for the College of Nursing, Ltd."

Later on, when the extended application of the Fund was promulgated for more general application to College and non-College nurses, the tone of the advertisements was made more inclusive, and reference was then more freely made to the College of Nursing.

APPEAL MADE ON BEHALF OF THE NURSING PROFESSION AS A WHOLE.

The general evidence seems to show that the appeal was made on behalf of the Nursing Profession as a whole, when the only object then registered for the Charity was "to provide funds for the College of Nursing, Ltd."; but from reasons which are very apparent, it was thought advisable to extend the "objects" in order to making the "objects" more typical of the representations made in the appeal of the *Daily Telegraph*.

The foregoing are statements of fact recorded, and opinions are not given as they can best develop in discussion.

QUESTIONS TO WHICH THE PUBLIC AND THE NATION'S NURSES HAVE A RIGHT TO A REPLY.

We gather from this investigation (1) That the London County Council, which is responsible for carrying out the provisions of the War Charities Act, has permitted the Nation's Fund for Nurses' Appeal to carry on for three and a half years without publishing its audited accounts and balance sheet. Naturally we want to know why the self-elected promoters of this appeal have been granted such licence?

(2) Why no public announcement was issued to the press when the Committee realised, what we have always contended, that the appeal, having been made in the name of the Nation's Nurses, the money was not a monopoly of the College of Nursing, Ltd.?

(3) Why, when the British Red Cross Society allocated £50,000 of money (we contend subscribed for the sick and wounded) to the

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