

areas where no fixed nursing institutions had been established.

Next in importance came the populous areas where, owing to rapidity of development, there had not been time to establish adequate nursing services, and where there were invariably numbers of people who are unable, without assistance, to incur the expense of engaging the services of a nurse. The scheme for the formation of District Nursing Associations at Johannesburg and Maritzburg were pleasing evidences that this problem was being successfully grappled with.

Although there were at present only 17 nurses on the staff of the Order, 370 cases were dealt with last year. This was very creditable, but the amount of work to be undertaken in so vast a country as this was stupendous and could not be satisfactorily coped with until the staff was increased, and more funds became available.

His Royal Highness concluded by exhorting those qualified to join the Order.

Miss Rawson has been reappointed Hon. Secretary of the Trained Nurses' Association of India, and subscriptions and applications should be sent to her at Rahmatpur, Palwal, South Punjab.

The New York correspondent of the *Evening Standard* writes:—"The little red schoolhouse in which Clara Barton began to teach in 1853 and from which she went forth to world-wide fame has been restored and dedicated as a shrine. She left this school house in Bordentown, New Jersey, to work in the Patent Office in Washington, and soon after began her relief work for sufferers in the Civil War. Then she attended the wounded and dying on the battlefields of the Franco-Prussian War. She founded the American Red Cross on May 21st, 1881, serving continuously as its president until 1905. When she was ninety years old, in 1912, she died at Glen Echo, Maryland.

"The services at the dedication were really as simple as she would have wished."

We well remember meeting Clara Barton at the World's Fair, Chicago, 1903. When asked to address a huge audience of women from all quarters of the globe, she remarked: "Clara Barton is no speaker, but Clara Barton has an international heart." That, of course, brought the House down! This, of course, was long before the American Red Cross Nursing Department was organised on a professional basis, making it the most effective in the world.

DEPUTATION TO THE MINISTER OF HEALTH.

NURSES' REGISTRATION ACT, 1919.

OFFICIAL REPORT.

The Minister of Health received, on July 7th., a deputation representing various Nurses' Organisations. The deputation consisted of:—

Mr. Herbert J. Paterson, C.B.E., M.C., F.R.C.S., Medical Hon. Secretary, Royal British Nurses' Association.

Mrs. Glover, Miss Liddiatt, Miss Sinzinenex, R.R.C., Royal British Nurses' Association.

Miss Steuart Donaldson, R.R.C., Matrons' Council of Great Britain and Ireland.

Miss M. Breay, Hon. Secretary, Registered Nurses' Parliamentary Council.

Miss H. L. Pearse (President) and Miss Nicholls (Secretary), National Union Trained Nurses.

Dr. Foord Caiger, Fever Nurses' Association.

Miss E. C. Barton, R.R.C., Miss M. S. Rundle, R.R.C. (Secretary), College of Nursing, Ltd.

Mrs. Paul (Chairman), Professional Union of Trained Nurses.

Sir Alfred Mond was accompanied by Mr. L. G. Brock, C.B., an Assistant Secretary of the Ministry.

In introducing the deputation, Mr. Herbert Paterson said that much unrest had been created in the Nursing world by the delay in the publication of the Rules under the Nurses' Registration Act for the admission of existing Nurses to the Register. They understood that this was due to the difficulty of securing agreement between the English and Scottish Councils as regards the standard of qualification to be required from candidates for admission to the Register. Section 6 of the Act, which dealt with reciprocity, was ambiguous, but it was understood that the Law Officers of the Crown had advised that the English Council must admit to the corresponding part of the English Register nurses admitted to the general or supplementary parts of the Scottish Register. This being so it was essential that there should be uniformity of the standard between the two countries, and the English nurses took the strongest objection to the Scottish proposal to admit to the general part of the Scottish Register, and therefore inferentially to admit to the general part of the English Register, Scottish Fever Nurses who held the Certificate of the Scottish Local Government Board and the Scottish Board of Health. On behalf of the deputation, which was of a very representative character, Mr. Paterson appealed to the Minister to protect English nurses from what they regarded as a grave injustice. The matter was urgent since the delay in establishing the State Register was giving rise to much unrest in the Nursing world.

The Minister, in reply, said that it was happily not necessary for him to enter into any discussion on the legal points which Mr. Paterson had raised, since the Secretary for Scotland had now agreed

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