

Association, held at Bury, the attention of the meeting was drawn to the success of the Association in securing the exemption of all Poor Law Nurses—including those who had contracted out of the Superannuation Act—from the provisions of the Unemployment Insurance Act, 1922, as from the 1st July, 1922.

The College of Nursing, Ltd., is not only claiming all the credit for this reform, but is actually circularising the hospitals to pay the piper, to judge from the following communication received from the House Governor of the General Hospital, Nottingham:—

DEAR MADAM,—It may interest you to learn that in response to a suggestion made that all Nurses should give to the College of Nursing a sum equivalent to the contribution which they would otherwise have made to Unemployment Insurance for the first week of July as an acknowledgment to the College for securing exemption, the Nursing Staff of this hospital has forwarded the sum of £3 7s., and the Committee have given a donation of £3 3s., making a total of £6 10s.

We are of opinion that Committees of voluntary hospitals have no right to subsidise the College of Nursing, Ltd., with charitable funds, any more than Boards of Guardians have the right to expend the rates should a like appeal be made to them by the Poor Law Officers' Association.

From the *Acton Gazette* we cull the enclosed ethical "gem":—

"Satisfactory reports were received on the recent examination of probationer nurses at the West Middlesex Hospital. Fifteen had passed, and two of the candidates, Miss Dorothy Barnett and Miss Kate E. Bates, did so well that it was decided to award the former a silver and the latter a bronze medal.

These two nurses having been introduced by the Matron of the hospital, they were presented by the Chairman with their decorations. The Chairman mentioned that a silver medal had not previously been won for some years.

Mr. Nowell: I move that the Chairman kiss them.

The Chairman: Order, order; this is not a cinema."

They do these things better in France. Premiers, Presidents, and Generals seal with a kiss the bestowal of honours. Mr. Nowell may have gallant Gallic blood in his veins.

It is much to be regretted that the Editor of *Health*, the official organ of the Federation of Medical and Allied Societies, has refused to comply with the just request of the Royal British Nurses' Association to publish a reply

to the very partisan and injurious statements printed in the May number concerning the action of the Minority on the General Nursing Council who belong to affiliated Societies. As we pointed out in a former issue, the Editor of the *College Bulletin*, Miss Vera Collum, is part editor of *Health*, so that the Free Nurses' organisations were placed in a most invidious position in their relation to the Federation. The Secretary should not have permitted the attacks, but once printed, it is intolerable that a reply should be suppressed.

NIGHTINGALE SCHOLARSHIPS.

We are informed by Mr. W. H. Bonham Carter, Secretary of the Nightingale Fund, that the Fund offers certain scholarships (not exceeding three in number) tenable for one year at King's College for Women, Campden Hill, London, beginning in October next.

The scholarships, including board and residence at the College, will be of the value of one hundred and twenty-eight guineas each, and, if the Committee consider their funds allow it, a further payment towards expenses will be made to each of the scholars.

The intention of these scholarships is to assist their holders in qualifying for higher posts in the nursing profession.

The scholarships are open to any nurse trained in the Nightingale School, who possesses its Certificate.

Intending candidates must send in their names to the Matron, St. Thomas's Hospital, on or before July 7th, 1922, and all applications must state the age of the candidate, the date of the Certificate held, together with a statement of the nature of the work the applicant has been engaged on since the date of the certificate.

The Committee of the Nightingale Fund, which has always, following in the footsteps of its illustrious Founder, been interested in the promotion of the thorough education of nurses, is sincerely to be congratulated on offering these advantages to certificated pupils of the Nightingale School. Their action might well be copied by other Nurse Training Schools, which, if they raised a fund for this purpose, might reasonably ask for a subsidy from the Board of Education to increase the amounts so subscribed.

THE NATION'S FUND FOR NURSES.

As we go to press we have been able to secure a copy of the Report of the Nation's Fund for Nurses from January 1st, 1920, to December, 1921, for which we have made repeated application at its shop at 32, North Audley Street, W1, since January, 1921. In our opinion all charities supported out of public funds should issue an annual statement of Accounts, and we hope that this will be the course followed by the Nation's Fund for Nurses in the future.

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