

Some few years ago Miss Grasett opened the London School of Weaving in Old Cavendish Street, and now quite a number of people go there for training. Recently a nurse who had taken the course and knew lace making also, received a very good appointment under the Government as a teacher of handicrafts in one of the Colonies, and we hear of other pupils who have also secured appointments. Nurses, who feel that their health is not likely to last through long years of nursing might well make some enquiries regarding special training of this sort which can be taken in a few months.

The scheme to form a handicraft school for disabled soldiers at Cannock Chase originated with Mrs. Batchelor, of Burnside, near Stratford-on-Avon. During her war work, Mrs. Batchelor observed that the wounded soldiers were always happiest when occupied, and she has turned her observation to practical account by establishing a scheme to give them interests and employment to take the place of those which have been lost to them through their disablement. Mrs. Batchelor holds that our duty to the men, disabled in the Great War, does not end when we have seen them housed and that their physical needs are cared for. She has generously instituted a scheme to develop new faculties for those which have been lost and to provide the occupation which her observation has shown is likely to bring them contentment. We trust that her experiment will not only prove exceedingly successful but that it will lead to the establishment of similar schemes in other institutions. Not only will the teaching of new crafts help to minimise the disablement of the men and give them new interests, but in many cases it may actually change their misfortune into a blessing by providing an outlet for the creative faculty, inherent in every human being to a greater or less extent and which must find expression, or the energy required for such expression will find its way into wrong channels, to the detriment of the individual and the discomfort of those about him. Indeed the question of how far the condition of the world at the present time rests upon the extent to which machinery has entered into our national life is one which might well receive the attention of psychologists. The lack of high ideals, the crime, and the national habits and tastes of the present day, which are little short of refined savagery, may be due to a very large extent to the fact that machinery has trespassed into every sort of craft and blocked every outlet for the flow of the natural and God-given instinct to create. Anyhow, we suggest that the hygiene of the creative quality in man might well form the subject of a paper from the pen of our clever nurse psychologist, Miss Bielby. We wish Mrs. Batchelor's scheme every success, and she could have found no more charming and kindly teacher for the disabled men than Miss Atkins, who has been such a popular member at the R.B.N.A. Club during the last few weeks when she has been in residence there.

APPOINTMENT.

Miss Edith Rowlands has been appointed Organiser and Lecturer to the Welsh Memorial Association of North Wales. She was trained at Burnley Infirmary and joined the Association last year. We congratulate her upon her appointment, and would like to see more nurse lecturers appointed on subjects relating to health work. They have at least shown the ability to popularise their subject when they have taken such posts.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS FROM HIS WORSHIP THE MAYOR OF KENSINGTON.

Dr. Rice Oxley has requested us to convey his thanks to those members of the R.B.N.A. who so kindly sent dolls to the Town Hall, Kensington, to be forwarded to the children of that town in the devastated regions of France which has been adopted by the Royal Borough of Kensington. His Worship the Mayor and the Borough Council greatly appreciate the nurses' kindness.

MISS BEATRICE CUTLER "AT HOME."

On the afternoon of Saturday, January 28th, when Miss Cutler is to be "At Home" at 194, Queen's Gate, many friends, old and new, will gather at the Club to wish her *bon voyage* and a happy visit to South Africa.

THE EVOLUTION OF SURGERY.

We remind our members of the lecture to be given at the Club by Sir D'Arcy Power, on Saturday, February 4th, at 3 p.m. The lecture will be illustrated by lantern slides, and we look forward to seeing and hearing a great deal about surgery in its earliest beginnings and in its modern achievements. We will be grateful if the members will do what they can to make the lecture known to their friends. There will be no charge for the lecture. Tea will be served afterwards at the usual cost of one shilling.

THE ASSOCIATION OF TRAINED NURSES IN PUBLIC HEALTH WORK.

The Committee of the Association of Trained Nurses in Public Health Work have had under consideration the position of nurses engaged in various branches of health work, and propose to hold a public conference to discuss this. Arrangements are not yet complete, as there has been some difficulty in arranging for speakers, but we hope, at an early date, to be able to announce the place and date of the Conference.

GIFTS TO THE CLUB.

We acknowledge the following gifts:—Her Royal Highness, the Princess Christian, theatre tickets; Miss Burr, cake; Miss Frampton, chrysanthemums; Miss Gilligan, turkey; Miss Glover, roses and chrysanthemums; Mrs. Good, turkey and butter; Mrs. Hannay, pot of heather; Mrs. Hayes Palmer, illustrated papers; Miss McDernot, cake; Miss Syme, cake; Miss Gordon Wright, chicken, Christmas pudding and pork pie.

ISABEL MACDONALD,
Secretary to the Corporation.

[previous page](#)

[next page](#)