

### NURSING ECHOES.

Our readers will be gratified to know that Miss S. A. Villiers has been re-elected a member of the Executive Committee of the National Council of Women at its recent meeting at Cambridge. For many years, although many Nurses' organisations were affiliated to the Council, they had no expert on the Executive. Owing to the representations of the Matrons' Council and other Societies this defect was remedied last year, when Miss Villiers was elected. In these days "Registered Nurses" must see to it that their profession has expert representation on any National Organisation they support financially. Lady Frances Balfour was re-elected President of the Council, an eminently popular appointment. The lady has wit—*grace à Dieu!*

It is noteworthy that there is no question of scrapping the Syllabus of Education for the Nursing of Sick Children, which, with the exception of gynæcology, is identical with that for General Nursing. Why, then, should it be suggested that the great body of general nurses should be deprived of its benefits? The suggestion is an outrage.

We hope nurses already registered will not submit to this grave injury without taking steps to protect the status of the State Examination.

A most interesting Address, given at the Public Health Nurses' Convention, San Jose, California, by Dr. John R. Haynes, on "Sterilisation of the Unfit," should receive wide consideration. When we can find space we hope to discuss it at length. But whether we shall ever have the moral courage to adopt such methods of preventing degeneracy and crime we doubt. Sentiment governs so many stupid people in this country.

It is expected that the John Howard Homes for disabled nurses at East Brighton will be ready for occupation early in the new year. It will be remembered that Sir John Howard, who died in 1917, left £30,600 to build, furnish, equip, and maintain 24 cottages as a home for nurses, with provision for 10s. a week to be paid to the occupants, whose personal income must not exceed 5s. a week, and who, on account of age, infirmity, or other circumstances, were unable to follow the occupation of trained nurse.

We are informed that the cottages promise to be real homes for their possessors, whose income, we understand, may be augmented.

The Bolton Board has agreed to the Townleys Hospital Committee's recommendation to appoint a Sister Tutor to teach probationer nurses at the hospital, at a salary of £100, rising annually by £10 to £130, with emoluments.

In discussing the recommendation, Mr. Rushton said their expenses were becoming enormous, and he asked if it was proposed to reduce somebody else's salaries if this appointment was made. Another member agreed that the nurses should be trained, but said they were going to do it at too great a cost.

Mr. Hargreaves said the nursing staff was all right, and this scheme of tutor sisters was going to cost the country hundreds of thousands of pounds. Also, it was going to reduce the number of entrants into the nursing profession; and ultimately they would have only girls with high school or college educations. The whole thing was dangerous, and he objected to its being put into operation now.

Mrs. Barnes, however, said they must make proper provision for the training of their nurses, who would not be able to get on unless they passed the nurses' examination. Having agreed with the Nursing Council to become a nursing school the Guardians now were bound to do their best for the girls coming to be trained there. The syllabus would be a standard for the whole country, she added, and this would eliminate the annoyance of Unions with high standards getting nurses from others with lower ones.

Mr. Hargreaves was assured that working girls would get every chance, for a seventh standard was all that was required of candidates.

"If I were not a doctor I should want to be a nurse," said Dr. Wilfrid Grenfell on Monday night, when, addressing a large audience at Westminster Central Hall, he paid a glowing tribute to the unselfish women who go out to Labrador to assist in the medical mission of which he is the pioneer.

Quite a number of Canadian and American nurses have worked in this isolated land.

It demonstrates the very high moral standard of our colleagues in New Zealand that, as reported in *Kai-Tiaki*, a Registered Nurse has been condemned for the first time to serve a term in prison for theft.

"For the first time on record in New Zealand," states *Kai-Tiaki*, "this disgrace has fallen on the Nursing Profession. A nurse of long standing, and who has held the responsible position of a Sister in the Auckland Hospital

[previous page](#)

[next page](#)