

DEBATING SOCIETY.

At the suggestion of some members we are forming a Literary and Debating Society. The first ordinary meeting of this will take place on Monday, 19th inst., at 8 p.m., and the subject of debate will be the "Economics of the Nursing Profession." Any nurses who care to attend will be welcomed.

THE RAMBLERS' CLUB.

Members are reminded that there will be a tour of the Victoria and Albert Museum on Saturday, 17th inst. Will nurses who wish to join it be at the entrance to the Museum at 3 p.m. on that day?

GIFTS TO THE CLUB.

"Anonymous," gramophone records; Sir Harold Boulton, three volumes of songs; Misses Floyer and Milne, lampshade; and Miss Wise, flowers.

DONATIONS.

General Purposes Fund.—Miss Chippendale and Miss Warner, 5s.; Miss Sullivan, 4s. 6d.; Miss Fenwick Hutchinson, 2s. 6d.; Miss M. Piper, 1s. 6d.; and "Anon." and Miss Williams, 1s.

Club.—Miss A. B. Curtis, £1 5s.

Helena Benevolent Fund.—Miss Chippendale and Miss Drakard, 5s.; Misses Heap, Freear and Sullivan, 2s. 6d.; Miss A. de S. Wickham, 2s.; and Misses Fraser, Treble, L. Wilson, and Williams, 1s.

Settlement Fund.—Miss Flint and Miss McLaughlin, £1; Miss Sullivan, 10s.; Misses Drakard and Fenwick Hutchinson, 5s.; Miss Rowe, 3s. 6d.; and Misses Bousfield, E. Freear, and M. Howard, 2s. 6d.

ISABEL MACDONALD,

Secretary to the Corporation.

NURSES TRIP THE LIGHT FANTASTIC TOE.

Last Wednesday, February 7th, the Queen's Hospital gave their annual dance in the Shoreditch Town Hall, this year amalgamating with the Elizabeth Garrett Anderson Hospital, Euston Road. The hall was decorated with balloons; in fact, the whole scene was a blaze of colour. Gaily dressed nurses, doctors, and their friends, in every conceivable kind of fancy costume, mingled with the other dancers, who, though not so elaborately attired, were none the less gay. We were fortunate in securing the services of the Goddard Dance Orchestra, who did full justice to their instruments and gave us every ounce of their jazz selections. Our thanks are due to Miss Bushby, Miss Hale, and other kind friends, who, with untiring efforts, did so much to make our dance a success, and gave us such an enjoyable evening.

E. M. B.

A WORD FOR THE WEEK.

We lack the courage to be where we are :—
We love too much to travel on old roads,
To triumph on old fields; we love too much
To consecrate the magic of dead things.

THE IRISH NURSES' AND MIDWIVES' UNION.**THE IMPORTANCE OF AN EFFICIENT PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICE.**

As all other interests in Ireland seem to gain a hearing in spite of the troubled times, the Irish Nurses' and Midwives' Union is making a fresh endeavour to awaken public interest, if possible, to the deplorably backward state of the Public Health services in Ireland. The Union is holding a Public Conference in the Mansion House (Supper Room), Dublin, on Wednesday, February 21st, at 5 p.m., to which all interested will be heartily welcomed. The meeting will be addressed by Mr. R. J. P. Mortished, who has devoted a great deal of attention to the subject, and among other speakers will be Dr. T. R. Hennessy (of the Irish Medical Association). It is hoped that a large number of nurses will attend, as well as the general public, as the subject is one of vital interest to their profession.

If the nursing needs of the country were to be satisfied, there would be plenty of employment for all the nurses in Ireland. There are some country districts even yet which do not possess even a Dispensary Midwife; there should be a tuberculosis nurse in each county at least, besides nurses for ordinary sick cases in every town and district. There should be a cottage hospital with a sufficient staff of fully-trained nurses in every locality, besides the large county hospital; there should be a school nurse to look after the health of the children in every school. If all these nurses were at work, after a very few years the country would realise what enormous sums it had wasted in the past through allowing disease to spread and increase through the land, retarding the development of children, disabling men and women, and delaying the work of many to an incalculable extent.

The Union hopes there will be a large attendance at the meeting, when a resolution will be put forward asking for the establishment of a Ministry of Health as soon as possible.

K. V. PRICE, *Asst. Sec.*

GOD'S CHILDREN.

Who are those little ones playing alone
Out in the dirty street,
Playing about where the cobble stone
Covers the earth where grass would have grown
Soft to their bare brown feet?

And he who was child of a bygone day—
Now but a wreck of man—
Smoking, sat watching the children play,
Smiled as he saw 'twas the same old way
The little beggars ran.

And hearing my voice, he looked at me,
Pointed his old pipe stem—
"These are the children of God," said he,
"For nobody cares for them."

(From "Passing Songs," by Dr. William Barr).

[previous page](#)

[next page](#)