

weapon that is of any value in economic life—organisation—and herded into an organisation, dominated by themselves and their representatives, many thousands of nurses who had practically no choice but to join. Only yesterday a nurse wished to join the R.B.N.A.—was most anxious to, in fact—and yet she felt that her future career was not safe if we insisted upon sending our reference form to her Matron. I often wonder whether it is more wrong to let another use your free will or to cause the free will of that other to be swept off in the tide of your own influence or power. Certainly grave dangers must result to the many if either becomes the rule.

The speaker touched upon many other points in connection with the subject and then several of those present discussed questions raised in her remarks.

Miss Forbes asked whether any of the large hospitals in Scotland had private staffs, a question answered in the negative. Miss Forbes considered that a much healthier system existed there, in connection with the status of the nurses, and to this she attributed the impulse given by Mrs. Strong, late Matron of the Glasgow Royal Infirmary, whom she regarded as having wider vision than any other hospital Matron she had known. Miss Aughton agreed with what the speaker had said and considered that we want clearer thinking on subjects like these. A lively discussion arose in connection with the hospital private staffs, certain speakers emphasising the advantages of these and others strongly condemning them. Mrs. Johnson considered that a factor, very damaging to the economic position of nurses, was the fact that women of a low educational standard are entering the profession in very large numbers.

MISS AUGHTON'S ENTERTAINMENT.

On Tuesday, 6th ult., Miss Aughton gave an entertainment at the Club, for her patients at the Sea Water Dispensary, Euston Road. At 7 p.m. members of its Committee and a number of friends dined with Miss Aughton at the Club, and at 8 p.m. a delightful concert commenced, to which the members in residence were invited. Miss Verena Cumbers' songs were delightful, and we have never before had such a fine dramatic entertainment at 194, Queen's Gate, as that we enjoyed from Mr. Harold Horton. To Mrs. Cumbers the guests felt greatly indebted for her charming music. Dr. Burford, who occupied the chair, warmly thanked the artistes for a most delightful evening. He also moved that an expression of thanks be conveyed to the Council of the Royal British Nurses' Association for the use of the room.

Lastly, Dr. Cumberbatch expressed the thanks of all present to the hostess of the evening—Miss Aughton—and in doing so paid an eloquent tribute to her work as Matron of the Sea Water Dispensary. She is, said he, the soul of that movement, and it owes its great advance in recent

years to her powers of organisation and her splendid enthusiasm.

LECTURE ON VENEREAL DISEASE.

On Saturday, March 3rd, at 3 p.m., Dr. Sloan Chesser will lecture at 194, Queen's Gate, on Venereal Disease. We hope that nurses will do what they can to make this lecture known to other nurses, as the subject is one of such urgent importance at the present time.

LITERARY AND DEBATING SOCIETY.

On Monday, March 5th, at 8 p.m., the Literary and Debating Society are to discuss a Resolution, "That there should be equality of the Sexes in the National and Economic Life." Miss Drennan, M.R.B.N.A., will propose the Resolution and Mrs. Glover, M.R.B.N.A., will be the opposer. From what we hear there is likely to be a lively discussion and we hope that all nurses who can will attend. We shall be glad to hear from members of subjects they would like to have discussed.

HAVE NURSES ENTERPRISE?

At the second meeting of the Debating Society Miss Donaldson proposed the Resolution: "That Nurses have shown that they have enterprise." Miss Donaldson commenced by pointing out that a nurse's success depends upon her faculty for enterprise to a very considerable extent, and contended that the nursing profession offered plenty of opportunity for exercising any talents in the direction indicated by her Resolution. Nurses, she said, had always shown a tendency to go ahead and seize opportunities and to be responsive to new ideas. To prove her points Miss Donaldson drew examples from episodes in the war, from the success which had attended those nurses who had established Nursing Homes of their own, and from items taken from the news of "Wills and Bequests" showing cases where nurses had benefited from these. This, said Miss Donaldson, might be called quiet and sensible enterprise. (Laughter.) Again, had not some considerable number made successful marriages?

In the absence of Miss Cox-Sinclair, who had undertaken to oppose the Resolution, Miss Drennan, Miss Macdonald and Miss Walshe did so, while it was supported by Miss Forbes, Miss Crimmins, and Miss Hazelton.

After the debate the Chairman, Mrs. Johnson, put the Resolution, which was carried by a majority of one.

LECTURE ON SIR CHRISTOPHER WREN.

On Saturday, March 17th, at 3 p.m., Major Rigg, O.B.E., will give a Lecture on Sir Christopher Wren. We hope many Members will attend to hear what Major Rigg has to say of this great Englishman whose bi-centenary we are now celebrating.

ISABEL MACDONALD,
Secretary to the Corporation.

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