

for the purpose, and which is found a very great convenience. With Scottish thrift—a real virtue in these days—the most has been made of everything, and it goes without saying that cleanliness and order reigned supreme. Over tea, in Miss Stewart's charming sitting-room, we realised how fortunate the Club has been in the selection of its Secretary. This charming little lady, with her pretty, bright hair and soothing manner, her intimate knowledge of her work and evident deep sense of duty, has the whole organisation well in hand. Moreover, she is really interested in the happenings and welfare of her colleagues—not only those in and out of the Club, but throughout the nursing world—and we could not help but realise what a real disaster it was that she had not again been elected a member of the General Nursing Council for Scotland, on which she has done such excellent work during her term of service, but who—not being a member of the College of Nursing, Ltd.—had been eliminated from the list at a meeting in Edinburgh, in spite of her fitness to represent Scottish Nurses. It is just women like Miss Stewart who are needed on the Nurses' Governing Body—with their wide outside hospital experience, which cannot fail to widen their knowledge of social conditions and nurses' needs.

Scottish Nurses have done much to help financially with their own Club, and the next forward step is to have furnished the fine drawing-room on the first-floor front of the new house, which we believe is already arousing interest.

Had time permitted, we should have liked to have paid a visit to Hazelwood House, Dumbreck, the beautiful home for aged and retired nurses in Glasgow and the West of Scotland, recently opened. This must be a pleasure in the future.

A meeting of the Irish Matrons' Association will be held at 34, St. Stephen's Green, Dublin, on Saturday, January 6th, for the Election of Office Bearers. A President, Secretary, and Treasurer will be elected.

The announcement that a hospital, with Nurse-Training School attached, is being organised in the liberated areas of Northern France, and that a building has been secured at Lille for the purpose, recalls the agony which that sorely tried town not long since had to endure. The new school will bear the honoured name of Ambroise Paré, and the training will be in the hands of nurses from the Florence Nightingale School at Bordeaux.

There is urgent need for nurses in the great industrial area in which Lille is so important a centre.

It is much to be deplored that Great Britain has lost a great opportunity in not helping to further modernise nursing methods in France, and has stood aside whilst America has given a splendid lead, and the necessary financial support.

OUR DUTY FOR THE BENEFIT OF THE COMMUNITY.

We may hope that before the next issue of this Journal, the Ballot Papers for the election of the nurses' Direct Representatives to the General Nursing Council for England and Wales may have reached the Registered Nurses eligible to vote, and that, unperturbed by the recent mismanagement of our election, each elector will again vote for the candidates of whom she approves. It is useless to deny that there are two distinct types of Candidates. Those who claim, as the Independent Candidates do, that Nursing is their Profession, that they have worked for and organised it, and are responsible for its efficiency and high ethical standards. These candidates claim personal and professional responsibility for their own affairs, and are prepared to claim such rights and privileges for State Registered Nurses.

The College Group have not announced their convictions on these principles, nor have the majority in the past, as members of the General Nursing Council, supported them. Indeed, the large majority of these nominees have maintained a significant silence in Council when professional independence and progress have been under discussion, and they have, by nominating and supporting a medical and lay dictatorship, inside and outside of the Council, done immeasurable injury to the Nursing Profession and to the advancement of women as a sex.

The time has now arrived when Registered Nurses must choose whether they intend to serve God or Mammon. They cannot serve both.

If Registered Nurses desire progress, and efficiency, self-support, and self-respect, they will record their votes for the list of persons—to be found on the back Cover Page of this Journal—who one and all pledge themselves to uphold and maintain, to the best of their ability, efficient standards and status for the fellow-members of the profession they hold in veneration and affection. The Nursing Acts make efficiency possible; it is our duty for the benefit of the community to attain it.

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