

Amongst those who have signed the Children's Charter in its revised draft, as agreed between representatives of the Save the Children Fund and the National Council of Women, we note the names of Miss Kathleen Smith, S.R.N., President of the Matrons' Council of Great Britain, Miss Inglis, President Poor Law Infirmary Matrons' Association, and Mrs. K. Atherton Earp, President Professional Union of Trained Nurses.

The executive committee of Queen Victoria's Jubilee Institute for Nurses met at 58, Victoria Street, on June 30th. Sir Warren Crooke-Lawless presided.

Queen Alexandra, Patron of the Institute, through Sir Henry Streatfeild, expressed great satisfaction at the record of work during the year, he wrote: "Queen Alexandra is sincerely pleased to know that the Institute is making steady progress, and, despite financial anxieties for the future, she earnestly hopes that it will be always found possible to carry on unchecked the work of district nursing, which is of such national importance."

It was reported that, up to the present, the replies received from the affiliated associations with regard to the proposed long service fund for Queen's nurses, show a majority of over 80 per cent. in favour of the fund. During the last three months eighteen nursing associations have been affiliated, and 100 nurses have been enrolled as Queen's nurses. The demand for Queen's nurses is largely in excess of the number available. Long service badges for twenty-one years' service as a Queen's nurse were awarded to twelve Queen's nurses, and Princess Beatrice has consented to present these badges at the next meeting of the council.

Sir Eric Hambro K.C.B. who presided at the thirty-eighth annual general meeting of the Royal National Pension Fund for Nurses at the Royal Society of Arts, John St., Adelphi, W.C., on June 26th, stated that no year since 1916 had been such a good year as 1924. The Fund was now paying out in annuities £92,000 which worked out at an average of £27 6s. 5d. for each nurse.

The two retiring members of the policy holders, Miss M. Hogg, C.B.E., Matron of Guy's Hospital, and Miss C. E. Vincent, R.R.C., Matron of the Royal Infirmary, Leicester, were re-elected.

The Chief Constable of Plymouth has announced his intention of taking steps to prevent the State Registered Nurses' uniform being worn by any one not entitled to it. He has stated recently to the representative of a contemporary:—

"During the course of my experience, I have come across many instances of the uniform being abused. Some time ago a woman of the streets in Plymouth was wearing it, and in London I had several cases of thieves who dressed themselves up so in order to gain admission to boarding houses and afterwards abscond with the valuables of the residents. As a cover for blackmail, nurses' uniform has often been employed, and it is also frequently a feature of massage and manicuring establishments, which in many towns are carried on for improper purposes."

He has issued a warning to servant girls and their mistresses to prepare for the coming change. "It has always annoyed me," he says, "to see servants attired as nurses degrading the uniform by going into public-houses for the dinner beer. This ought never to have been allowed, and now it will have to stop."

#### QUEEN ALEXANDRA MILITARY HOSPITAL, S.W.1.

In the beautiful chapel of the Queen Alexandra Military Hospital, Millbank, at the morning service on June 14th, the Memorial, erected by the Queen Alexandra's Imperial Military Nursing Service to the memory of the late Miss E. C. Humphreys, was unveiled by the Countess Roberts, D.B.E., and dedicated by the Chaplain-General the Reverend A. E. C. Jarvis, C.M.G., M.C., D.D.

Miss E. C. Humphreys was trained at the London Hospital, leaving July, 1900, to join the Army Nursing Service Reserve. She served in South Africa to July, 1902, and joined the Queen Alexandra's Imperial Military Nursing Service February 12th, 1903, as Sister. Served at Woolwich and Aldershot; she was promoted Matron in November, 1911. During the Great War she was in Gibraltar until 1916, when she was transferred to Salonika. She was Matron of Millbank from May, 1919, to November, 1921, when she was transferred to Cologne; she died in Cologne, October 9th, 1923.

*Honours*: R.R.C. (1st class) June, 1917; O.B.E., June, 1919; Mentioned in Despatches June, 1917 and 1919; Greek Medal for Military Merit, November, 1919.

#### ASSOCIATION D'HYGIENE SOCIALE DE L'AISNE.

We read in the last *Bulletin* of the Association d'Hygiene Sociale de l'Aisne: "It is extraordinary with what rapidity the weeks and months pass. No sooner have we written one *Bulletin* than it seems to be time for another. The month which is passed has been rather a strange one. There has been a sort of reaction, which seems more or less natural amongst the people of our villages.

"Immediately after the war they returned with wonderful courage and worked from morning till night in their effort to recover from the ravages of the war. The French Government has raised money and has been able to advance sums which they hope some day to recover from the Germans. But now the French Government also has come to the end of its tether and they cannot advance much more money for building or repairs. And now after almost seven years of hard work and courage, the population which expected to find itself on Easy Street, has arrived at a deadlock.

"We have had this month a number of suicides, sudden deaths, and even murders, which we attribute to this reaction, and which we hope won't last very long, and which we are doing our best to counteract.

"The Association has been asked to assume the responsibility for the direction of the anti-tuberculosis and anti-venereal dispensary of the hospital of Soissons. Financial responsibility is taken care of by a subsidy which has been granted to the Association for the expenses of the dispensary. The dispensary was organised by the Rockefeller six years ago, and our nurses have always done the tuberculosis work in our section, but it has been under the direction of a visiting Nurse of the Préfecture

"We are glad to assume this added responsibility, because it completes our work and our training field, should we decide later to organise a school of Public Health Nursing.

"The Doctors and hospital authorities have welcomed us with open arms."

[previous page](#)

[next page](#)