

an appeal is now made for £25,000 to secure a yearly income sufficient to send out at least 12 nurses per annum, in order to maintain the strength of the staff, without which it is impossible to carry on the work. Many efficient nurses are on the waiting list, and all the Homes in India are working under strength. The need is urgent, it is stated that the very existence of the Association is in the balance.

The Countess of Donoughmore, a member of the Board of Management of the London Homœopathic Hospital, has presented a handsome Silver Challenge Cup to the Inter-Hospital Nurses Swimming Club, affiliated to the Southern Counties Amateur Swimming Association and Amateur Diving Association, to be competed for in the Nurses Championship 50 yards race, any stroke. The Annual Gala is to be held by kind permission of the Committee at the Royal Automobile Club Bath, on October 17th, at 7.30 p.m. The Club now consists of members of the following Hospital Clubs:—Guy's Hospital, Charing Cross Hospital, The Middlesex Hospital, Royal Northern Hospital, London Homœopathic Hospital, Royal Free Hospital, St. Mary's Hospital, University College Hospital, London Hospital, King's College Hospital, St. Bartholomew's Hospital, Prince of Wales Hospital, St. Thomas's Hospital, Queen Mary's Hospital for the East End, and the Honorary Secretary and Treasurer is Miss Gladys Dale, Trained Nurses Institute, University Hospital, W.C.T.

In connection with the Cavell Guild, a garden meeting in aid of the Norwich Nurses' Home was held at Newlands, Norwich, the residence of Miss Finch, the Guild's honorary Secretary and Treasurer. There were exhibited many gifts collected during the year on behalf of the Cavell Home nurses.

Referring to the grave of Nurse Cavell, the Dean of Norwich said that only those who lived close to it could fully appreciate the wide appeal which her life and death still exercised over the thoughts and minds of many people. The number of visitors to the grave, which had become a kind of shrine, was extraordinary. He saw people there at every hour of the day, particularly at this time of the year when visitors were numerous. He saw men standing there with their hats off. He had seen women kneeling around the grave, and that not infrequently. Money had been sent him from different parts of England. A box had now been erected with the intimation that anything put in would be divided between the war memorial to be erected in the Cathedral and very specially the Edith Cavell Nurses' Home.

The shortage of probationers for training has become a very acute question in hospitals, and a letter recently appeared in the press from Mr. R. H. Paul, Chairman of the East Suffolk and Ipswich Hospital—in which he states:—"I think it is only fair to the public, to our subscribers, and to the patients, that I should make known the fact that we are unable to reopen one of our children's wards owing to lack of nurses."

Mr. Paul tells us, what those of us interested in the higher education of nurses, and the skilled care of the

sick know well, that the Nursing School attached to the Ipswich Hospital is excellently managed, and that consideration for the nursing staff could not be excelled. The Probationers are well taught according to the syllabus of the G.N.C., and prepared for the State Examination, which they are encouraged to take—as the Committee wisely agree that it is in the best interest of the community that all nurses should be hospital trained and placed on the State Register—and the Chairman adds that "the necessity for keeping up the standard of nursing was never more urgent than it is at the present moment," and he generously adds: "It is no satisfaction to me to know that we are not alone in our difficulties with regard to the supply of nurses. The technical papers are full of appeals to the women of the country to join this splendid service, and even the State and municipal institutions are suffering from the shortage." This appeal to the young women of East Anglia to join in the greatest of all human services—the care of the sick—will we hope meet with a ready response, and the reproach in the local press that "It is difficult to realise that one of the finest children's wards in the kingdom, with its open-air balconies, modern equipment and all medical and surgical appliances, stands vacant, while thirty-six suffering little ones are awaiting treatment, despite all the advantages offered, the young women of Ipswich and of the county districts near have shown no disposition to nurse them" be no longer justified.

This shortage of women offering themselves for training must in the near future be seriously considered. There must be some reason for it, other than selfishness. We meet numbers of kind-hearted girls in various walks of life. Has lack of prestige any influence on the question? Prestige can popularise any profession—and somehow of late years nursing has lost some of that glamour in public estimation which gave it flavour. Have we not all heard people in discussing sisters allude to "Poor Jane—the plain one you know—oh! she's a nurse," or some expression equally depreciatory. The intelligent sister is in medicine or business, the pretty one in a hat shop—or on the film—the stage—a sports girl—a live wire somewhere; but not in a hospital.

Sometime would it not be worth while to organise a campaign and send around really sympathetic trained nurses to tell the younger generation of women of the real spiritual happiness of *giving* instead of *taking*.

The Select Committee on the Registration of Nursing Homes will not be set up until after the recess. Parliament, which rose on August 7th, will reassemble on November 16th, so politicians will cease from troubling for quite a while.

INSTRUCTION TO THE EXPECTANT MOTHER.

In Toronto there are three Nursing Organizations, says Miss Jessie M. Wood, in *The Canadian Nurse*, visiting in the houses to give advice and instruction to the expectant mothers. The Victorian Order of Nurses, the St. Elizabeth Nurses, and the Public Health Nurses, who limit themselves to the educational aspects of the work.

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