

MEMORIAL TO SIR RICHARD BARNETT.

As will be seen in the British College of Nurses' Report, the Council decided that the Registration Platter, for which the Editor made an appeal in the October issue of this journal, shall be dedicated as a Memorial to the late Sir Richard Barnett.

As it is proposed to use the Platter annually on Registration Day at the College, his great services to the Nursing Profession will be thus kept in mind.

The adoption of a piece of plate to be suitably inscribed is apposite in this connection, as on leaving the House of Commons Sir Richard deplored the fact that no plate had been collected by it, through which other Corporations had commemorated their past.

The Editor hopes that subscriptions will be sent to her to complete the purchase of the Platter, for which so far she has received £18 of the £31 10s. required. She very much hopes those who can only afford a small subscription will not hesitate to send it. No need to be a large sum to express genuine appreciation, and gratitude to the memory of the very dear friend we have lost.

Mrs. Fenwick will read the After Chapter to "A Pageant and Masque on the Evolution of Trained Nursing and the Right of Life to Health," in which "Legal Status" declaims on Victory to the Goddess Hygeia, written by the late Wilhelmina J. Mollett upon the passing of the Nurses' Registration Acts in 1919, and which has never been presented before.

All subscribers to the Memorial will be invited to be present on the occasion of its dedication, and the cutting of the Registration Cake, at the end of December.

LECTURE ON NURSING HISTORY.

Will members of the British College of Nurses, and of the Royal British Nurses' Association, take notice that Her Royal Highness Princess Arthur of Connaught, R.R.C., S.R.N., has graciously consented to take the Chair at the Lecture on Nursing History to be given by Miss I. Macdonald (with lantern slides) on Wednesday, November 26th, at 3 p.m., at 39, Portland Place, W.1.

As space is limited those desiring to be present must apply for tickets of admission, as soon as possible, to the Secretary, British College of Nurses, 39, Portland Place, W., otherwise they may be disappointed. Admission will be by ticket because the habit, common amongst nurses, of failing to reply to invitations—and then attending functions—has been found somewhat inconvenient in the past.

Tickets will be issued in rotation as asked for.

Miss Macdonald has recently acquired a number of new and most interesting illustrations for her Lecture, and as nursing history is on the crest of the wave, we anticipate a large audience.

Miss M. S. Cochrane, R.R.C., and Miss A. M. Bushby are to be "At Home" on this occasion, and tea will be served from 4 to 6 p.m.

The History of Nursing Section, of which Miss Bushby is Chairman, will display some of its treasures.

A REVIEW OF LEPROSY WORK IN EAST AFRICA PARTICULARLY AS IT AFFECTS THE NURSING PROFESSION.

BY DR. ROBERT G. COCHRANE.

In no field of medicine can the nurse play a greater part than in the domain of leprosy treatment. Leprosy in tropical countries is so widespread and the cases are so numerous that it is impossible for medical men entirely to cope with the problem without assistance, and such help as a nurse can give is of the utmost value.

In the first place the routine treatment of leprosy is such that it can be very readily given by a nurse. Further, where there is no medical help available the nurse with her splendid training can do excellent work in organising and starting leprosy treatment centres. This has been shown in the past and such efforts as that of the late Mrs. Draper, and the present efforts of the many nurses in Missions and other stations are worthy of the highest commendation.

Finally as propaganda agents and as a great educative force their influence is unrivalled.

I do not intend in this short paper to dwell on the symptoms and treatment of the disease, for such information can be obtained from the British Empire Leprosy Relief Association which is prepared to supply leprosy literature and drugs free of charge to nurses and others who are doing leprosy work in the British Empire, and to Missionaries in any part of the world. When individuals are able to afford to pay for their own literature such help is greatly appreciated as the demands for help are greater than the Association can meet.

It may, however, be of interest if I take this opportunity of giving some information about the work that is being carried on, and could be carried on in East and Central Africa if funds were available.

A recent tour which I had the privilege of making extended through practically the whole territory from Cairo to the Cape. In such a journey the need and opportunity for leper work was impressed on me as never before. It would be most convenient for the purpose of this article if I were to review the countries visited in order of their visitation.

Practically all the leper work in the Sudan is carried on by Government Officers, and the work that is being done is of a very high order. Leprosy is confined chiefly to the S. Sudan and especially the area which borders French Equatorial Africa and Uganda. The method which has been pursued by the Government is one of segregation. This segregation, however, has not been irksome in any way and it is because of this that it has so largely succeeded. The system briefly is this: an endeavour is made on the part of the authorities to gather all cases within one central administrative area. The patients live in as natural surroundings as possible and have their own ground to cultivate, the method being to give them an area on which to build a hut and supply them with food for two years. At the end of this period they are expected to be able to support themselves. From these huts they proceed each day to the central administrative block for treatment and examination.

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