

House of Representatives to amend the Nurses and Midwives Registration Act of 1925, so as to enable private hospitals to be approved as training schools for nurses. The Association immediately organised a campaign to oppose a measure which it was felt would be a retrograde step and lower the existing standard of training, increase the output of trained nurses and consequently the unemployment amongst nurses, and further affect our reciprocity with Great Britain. Largely owing to the efforts of the New Zealand Trained Nurses Association in arousing public interest on our behalf, the Bill was modified and amended.

A further amendment to this Act at this period was the reconstitution of the Nurses and Midwives Registration Board. Until 1930 the Board consisted of the Director-General of Health, the Registrar of Nurses, Midwives and Maternity Nurses, a representative of the British Medical Association and two representatives of the Trained Nurses' Association, one representing nurses and one midwives. The Hospital Boards' Association appealed to the Minister of Health for representation on this Board, and an amendment to the Act to provide for this was included in the new Bill. The Nurses' Association at once realised that the nurse majority on this Board would then be in the minority and pressed for additional representation so as to retain this majority. This request was granted, so that the Board in addition to its former members includes now three representatives of the Trained Nurses' Association and one representative of the Hospital Boards' Association.

In February, 1931, an earthquake of unusual severity occurred in the Hawke's Bay province, which totally destroyed the Nurses' Home and Hospitals of Hawke's Bay and Wairoa, and in which several nurses lost their lives. The New Zealand Trained Nurses' Association raised funds to render assistance to those who had suffered personal loss and physical disablement, and this step was greatly appreciated by the nurses affected. Within 24 hours of the disaster £50 was sent from the nurses to supply necessities for the trainees of the hospitals.

The above disaster seemed to be the forerunner of the depression and financial problems which ever since have occupied the thinking people of the world.

The Association, through the Women's Unemployment Board, obtained positions for nurses in Health Camps and on an hourly visiting basis to the homes and families of the unemployed. Hospitals were approached to retain a greater proportion of trained staff. The Nurses and Midwives Registration Board cancelled many of the small hospitals as training schools for nurses and thus opened up many more permanent positions for trained staff.

The raising of the standard of examination requirements by the Nurses and Midwives Registration Board has also decreased the output of trained nurses from the general hospitals.

This fund instituted in 1918 to commemorate the memory of all nurses who lost their lives on active and home service during the period of the Great War has been of inestimable value in rendering financial assistance and granting annuities to nurses who through ill-health or old age are unable to follow their calling. This fund has been augmented by the efforts of the nurses of New Zealand and is supporting many annuities at the present time.

In April 1932, Miss C. R. Clark, a New Zealand nurse holding the Public Health Nursing Diploma of Bedford College, London, was appointed as salaried secretary and Assistant Editor of *Kai Tiaki*. Later in the year, when Miss Hester Maclean passed away, Miss Clark assumed the editorship of the Journal as well.

We have every reason to be proud of and appreciate the

work of our retiring Secretary, Miss Inglis, who has always worked so diligently on behalf of the Association.

In looking back over the recent year's work of the Association one feels that the present difficult times have made many indifferent members of our profession realise that the Association stands for the protection and welfare of its members; thus the general interest in the Association has been stimulated.

A VISIT TO THE CHATEAU DE PACHY.

On Monday, July 17th, our last afternoon in Brussels, we had a very charming invitation to visit Mme. Guinotte at the Chateau de Pachy, near Bellecourt. We left Brussels in lovely weather, making the journey of some fifty miles by coach.

Though some of the Directors and delegates had left Brussels on their homeward journey, there were quite a number of different countries still represented, and as one listened to the sound of the different voices it quite resembled a "little Tower of Babel." We had an excellent driver, and the way he managed the large coach through some of the narrow streets was quite wonderful. We stopped at the Nurses' Club, which is the headquarters of the National Federation of Belgian Nurses, and picked up several members. In over two hours' drive we passed through woods and villages until we came to the Plain of Waterloo—the scene of tragedy and glory; it brought a thrill of pride that England and her Allies had fought a far larger army under the great Napoleon and won, and sorrow for the passing of a man of stupendous genius. It was only at a very recent date that the Battlefield of Waterloo was to be sold for building purposes; but one is glad that such sacrifice has been averted—as many "friends and foes" are buried there and "nothing marks their resting place." To commemorate the Battle of Waterloo a large mound of earth was raised, and a lion stands proudly at the summit with a fine outstretched tail, rumour has it that some years ago the tail was cut off; but if so, it has now been replaced. There are villas, farms, and small houses scattered here and there, but the lion rampant reigns supreme, and can be seen for miles. 1815-1933—much has happened between these dates, and "La Belle France" and England are now warm friends and evidently bear no ill will and refer to old wars in a "sporting spirit." We travel at great speed through a flat and smiling country, every inch of land is cultivated, until we arrive at the entrance of the Chateau de Pachy. We enter the gates and drive through an exquisitely kept flower garden, where at the entrance we are met by Mme. Guinotte and her daughter, the former wearing the State uniform of the National Federation of Belgian Nurses—our hostess had trained as a nurse to set an example to Belgian ladies to do the same. Madame Guinotte spoke perfect English, and welcomed us most charmingly. We entered the Chateau, a delicious "high tea" was provided, with ices and refreshing "cup."

After this repast our hostess led us into the beautiful gardens, celebrated throughout Belgium, acres, acres, with its box edges and lovely roses. Such a quantity of pink roses I had never seen before, lovely lily ponds, flowers and rare shrubs, and not a weed to be seen. We were informed several women as well as men were employed to keep the garden in such perfect order. In the grounds was a large bathing-pool, which was much appreciated by members of the family. Hours might have been spent in this entrancing pleasance, but, alas! evening was casting its shadows. At the far end of the grounds, in a lane covered by beautiful trees, was our coach and Mme. Guinotte's car which was to take us to the village to see the most wonderful little hospital that she had built, maintained,

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