

MISS EDITH HUSSEY, S.R.N., M.B.C.N.

We have pleasure in presenting a portrait of Miss Edith Hussey, who has recently been elected a member of the Council of the British College of Nurses.

Miss Edith Hussey, S.R.N., M.B.C.N., was trained at the Infirmary, Beckett Street, Leeds, 1915-1918. During her nursing career she has held the appointment of Sister and Deputy Matron at the Doncaster Royal Infirmary; and since 1924 has worked as Departmental Ward and Assistant Home Sister at St. Stephen's Hospital, Fulham Road.

Miss Hussey, being keenly interested in the ethics of nursing, took a prominent part in the Executive Committee of the London County Council Nurses' Association.

Miss Hussey joined the British College of Nurses in 1935, and has shown a very intelligent interest in its professional policy. Her colleagues on the College Council look forward to her help and support in all that is for the benefit of the Nursing Profession.

ANOTHER TREASURE.

We have received from Miss Bushby another treasure for the history collection, this time a most interesting piece of work, in pamphlet form, from the pen of Florence Nightingale. It is another valuable piece of historical evidence of the expanse of the mind of this great woman and of how far reaching was her interest in humanity.

Notes on the Aboriginal Races of Australia.

A Paper read at the Annual Meeting of the National Association for the Promotion of Social Science held at York, September, 1864.

London, 1865.

BY FLORENCE NIGHTINGALE

This pamphlet was the outcome of a paper written by Florence Nightingale on the "Sanitary Statistics of Colonial Schools and Hospitals." The Duke of Newcastle sent copies of her paper to every Colony; many replies were sent to the Colonial Office and

forwarded to Miss Nightingale. This pamphlet was put before the "Association for the Promotion of Social Science." Extracts from two or three of the most important of these papers were those dealing with the Aborigines of Australia. The Benedictine Order had an establishment at New Norcia (Australia); Bishop Salvado gave Miss Nightingale much information as to the general principles on how natives should be trained. It is useless to change the native habits and customs, for as soon as they begin to undergo change under European influences the work of destruction has at the same time begun. Natives have little or no chance of recovery when ill if they are taken into a House or Hospital under medical treatment. Should one escape and return to the Bush, he will come back in a few days strong and healthy, having perhaps walked 50 or more miles. Native's dislike of Hospitals is also told by Dr. Hale, Bishop of Perth, also his dislike of the

locality where he has been ill, as he has persuaded himself that it is the place that has caused his illness. The Benedictine Monks found it was little use only to teach the natives to read and write, but that physical work and the system adopted by the Benedictine Mission answered better.

Miss Nightingale gives a very wise note. "What is the use of reading and writing to the native—it does not give him a living. Show him his duty to God, and teach him how to plough; otherwise he does but fall into vice worse than before."

The Australian natives in their present state, very few of the human race are lower in the scale of civilisation than these poor people.

The fate of the aboriginal populations is one closely concerning our national honour.

Bishop Hale's paper. "We know too well, unhappily,

what has been taking place steadily and surely from the moment when European first set foot upon Australian Continent until the present time. The native races sink down and perish at our presence."

It is hoped that the training of the children in sound physiological principles might save the disappearing race.

It is wonderful to find Miss Nightingale, who had never been in Australia, take so much interest in the welfare of the native; but all her life she had given of her best for the good of the human races, no matter to what race, colour or creed they belonged. She also cared greatly for "the lesser brethren": it is doubtful if she ever got over the sufferings of the horses during the Crimean War.

A. M. B.

FIXTURES.**ADMINISTRATION CLASSES.**

During the last week of September, arrangements are being made for the Administration Class of the British College of Nurses

to visit Hampton Court Palace, when a lecture will be given on "The History and Romance of Hampton Court Palace," followed by a tour of the Tudor kitchens and cellars, etc. Fellows and Members who would like to avail themselves of this privilege are requested to communicate with the Secretary for particulars, 19, Queen's Gate, S.W.7.

A MEMBER FROM INDIA WRITES:—

"Very much regret the delay in my annual subscription, but times are rather hectic just of late, so enclose cheque for £1 10s. the balance is to go to the cause for the status of the State Registered Nurse, for which you have my deepest sympathy and admiration in your untiring efforts, hence wishing you every success.

As I hope to be married in October, must then let you have my name and address. All good wishes."



MISS EDITH HUSSEY, S.R.N., M.B.C.N.
New Member of the Council, British College
of Nurses.

[previous page](#)

[next page](#)