

Dedication was conducted by Canon H. Williams and the Reverend Rugby Pratt, with Dr. L. T. Croke playing the organ.

Mr. Pratt, in his address, recalled the main facts of Miss Patrick's life and work, speaking as one who knew her personally, of her influence, of that quality she had of "being able to see the halo on the common-place." How many Plunket Nurses recall times when that quality gave them courage and inspiration to go on in the face of daily difficulties.

Touched and moved by personal memories dear to each as were many of those who filled the little chapel, the service was conducted, not in mourning, but in thanksgiving and in praise for the inspiration of Miss Patrick's lovely and triumphant spirit.

The window has been placed in the Chapel as the result of a memorial appeal originated by Plunket Nurses and others on the nursing staff of Christchurch Hospital.

This Memorial is separate from and additional to the National Memorial to Miss Patrick. About this latter it is hoped shortly to publish full particulars in the journal.

It is reported from Paris that the Duchess of Windsor has completed plans for turning the Chateau de la Croe at Cap d'Antibes into a convalescent home for wounded British officers, according to the Paris edition of the *New York Herald-Tribune*. She has also rented two villas adjoining the estate, thereby doubling the accommodation.

The Duchess's present plans are uncertain, but it is reported that she will stay at the chateau as hostess to the convalescents. She has selected a number of trained nurses in London, as well as an experienced matron. The British Army will furnish the doctors.

The Duke and Duchess of Windsor are paying all the costs of installation and maintenance.

#### NEED FOR ECONOMY IN PRINTING AND PAPER.

The readers of this journal will sympathise with the necessity to curtail its 56 columns of matter at the present crisis. But an important national economy in which every one should co-operate is the saving of expert labour in printing and publishing and the need for economy in paper. Thus after due consideration the Nursing Press, Ltd., which issues the *BRITISH JOURNAL OF NURSING*, together with the Editor, has reluctantly considered it necessary to reduce its size with this issue.

Printing and publishing is now one of the most expert trades in the world—not easily kept up to standard in this time of stress—and as paper is bound to become scarce, and a rationing scheme is to be applied shortly, now is the time to help to conserve the nation's paper resources by being economical in all forms of writing and printing. Last year the United Kingdom imported nearly 2,000,000 tons of raw materials for paper making and more than 1,000,000 tons of manufactured paper.

And how about the editorial staff? As our readers know, they are limited, and are carrying on under difficulties of production which only the untiring courtesy of Press Printers, Ltd., make possible at all.

#### GOVERNMENT EVACUATION SCHEME.

We have carefully studied the Government Evacuation Scheme as set out in Circular 1871, as defined in its 40 paragraphs.

Of course we must all agree with the main object of a national scheme to secure the evacuation of children from the crowded towns where the effect of air attack would be most serious; but the lack of imagination upon the part of those responsible for thrusting this particular scheme upon the community is amazing, or it would be if the nurses had not past experience of departmental autocracy.

If there is one instinct born in the bone of British people it is for the sanctity of the home, and a rough-hewn scheme which at one fell swoop demolishes privacy is a blunder of the crudest fibre.

The indignation of persons compelled to admit lousy children—totally uneducated, masterful mothers—bumptious teachers, their "lady" wives and "helpers" to look after their children, but who refuse to take part in the domestic work of the house, can be well imagined. The lady of the house and perhaps her one maid are expected to slave from morning to night—housekeeping, cooking, washing-up, cleaning and tidying—up at 6.30, to bed worn out. Where there are no parents, the strain is less arduous, but to be responsible for the health and safety of other people's children is a terrible strain. In all this the housewife is the sufferer. The *provincial* press has rightly given space for the discussion of this national "blister"—and we have before us dozens of cuttings expressing indignation at the desecration of homes and ruined furniture, destruction of foods, and unreasonable demands for which the meagre pay is totally inadequate. And when we are told that the estimated initial cost to the Government of the evacuation scheme was £2,000,000 and the weekly expenditure on billeting £450,000, and no information available upon which to base an estimate of the cost of expanded education and social services in the reception areas, or the expenditure in evacuated areas in respect of maintenance and interest charges on capital equipment not in use.

When the fact that the parents, many of them enjoying good incomes, were not subscribing towards the cost of their children, some 750,000 in number—it was realised that this grave abuse must be remedied, and the Minister of Health has therefore introduced a scheme whereby a reasonable proportion of the cost of billeting school children should be recovered from the parents. Not before time.

Stories of parents visiting their progeny in their own cars after a 60 miles' trip—mothers in fur coats—and tipping young hopeful 7s. 6d., after a hotel lunch. Others demolishing the week's rations of meat, young hopeful demanding "Where's my beer?" at dinner, and so on—it will be realised that this evacuation scheme must be thoroughly reorganised if justice is to be done.

"The Englishman's home is his castle," and a Government Department which arrogates to itself the power to violate its privacy is bound to fail.

Well-organised camps on a permanent basis for future use, with schools and hospitals and health services attached, should at once be organised—if standards of education and health are to be secured. Teachers, medical officers, Registered Nurses, midwives, social workers and helpers—who are out to help and not for a holiday at the country's expense—can alone meet the difficulties of the case.

The British are the most generous people in the world, and kind people will, we have no doubt, admit by consent little visitors to their homes; but compulsion in

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