

NURSING ECHOES.

Our gracious and indefatigable Queen Elizabeth has been off duty suffering from bronchitis, but the report of her convalescence has relieved anxiety, and we hope there will be no hurry in resuming the strenuous life she leads, an example to us all.

Mrs. Winston Churchill's Fund for Russia is naturally very popular and has been generously supported.

In the picture we present on this page we see Mrs. Churchill visiting the exhibition of coats at the Y.W.C.A.'s Central Club, Great Russell Street, which have been fur-lined by the National Federation of Women's Institutes, for sending to Russia for the comfort of women and children in that land of heroes, whose valiant defence of their country commands the admiration of the world.

Since the initiation 12 months ago of Mrs. Churchill's Red Cross "Aid for Russia" Fund, the public have subscribed more than £2,100,000, and the flow of contributions has never ceased.

Since the call first came from our valiant Ally, 18 consignments, of a total weight of 2,571 tons, have been shipped to Russia, and supplies of medical requisites, equipment, etc., are still being sent out.

At the request of the British Government, 400,000 woollen garments for Russian refugees restored to regained territory have been supplied.

Mrs. Churchill has, through the Press, expressed warm gratitude to all who have helped her to obtain such large quantities of highly specialised supplies not easy to obtain.

Recently we had a delightful surprise. Miss A. T. Hyde, Matron of the Joyce Green Hospital, Dartford, Kent, called at the office and brought as a gift for the History of Nursing Section of the British College of Nurses, Ltd., a very lovely statuette of Miss Florence Nightingale, a

model we have not before seen. It was sold for old Staffordshire by a dealer in the North Country, but we have never before seen a Staffordshire figure of such fine paste and modelling. The colouring is very brilliant, the face delicately tinted, and the figure erect with cap and scarf, the left hand resting on books on a pedestal.

Miss Hyde writes: "I have to thank you for accepting the statuette of Miss Nightingale for our collection of mementoes of our national heroine. I felt so sad to see her standing in an antique shop window looking lovely, but so lonely and out of her element, that I went in and secured her, and told the dealer that I would send her

to the British College of Nurses where I knew she would find a fitting home and be honoured. The proprietor was most interested and told me the statuette was Staffordshire china of about the time of the Crimea.

"I thought the proud uplift of the head very characteristic of her portraits, and am happy to think she is safe."

When the collection of Royal figures are again displayed we feel sure this statuette of the Queen of Nurses will arouse great admiration. We all owe Miss Hyde gratitude for her lovely gift.

On October 15th letters and cheques of Florence Nightingale will be sold by auction, at Sotheby's, for the

Red Cross. The most interesting letter is given by Captain Lord Herbert, a direct descendant of Sidney Herbert, Secretary for War during the Crimea. This letter, written by Florence to Herbert shortly before his death, in 1861, denounces officers of the Guards for neglect, inefficiency, and leaving the command to the sergeant-major.

Another letter, given by Captain F. D. Bone, was written in 1863 to Sir Charles MacCarthy, Colonial Secretary in Ceylon. In this, Florence Nightingale expresses fears that her name has been forgotten, but ventures to urge the introduction of physical training among the natives. She refers to a paper she wrote "on



Photo

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MRS. CHURCHILL ADMIRES FURS FOR RUSSIA AT THE Y.W.C.A. CENTRAL CLUB IN LONDON.

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