

It is interesting to learn from the *American Journal of Nursing* that Miss Yvonne Hentsch, of the Chief Nursing Bureau League of Red Cross Societies at Geneva, is now visiting some of the Red Cross Societies in Central and South America. Miss Hentsch will make a survey of nursing in the countries she will visit and offer expert help and advice. It is hoped that by thus strengthening relationships progress will be made towards a wider development of professional Red Cross nursing according to the best recognised standards of the day. Before starting on her tour, which is scheduled to include Peru, Chile, Argentina, Brazil, Venezuela, Columbia, Panama and Mexico, Miss Hentsch paid a visit to the American Red Cross in U.S.A., and conferred with the Chairman, the Honourable Norman H. Davis, who is also Chairman of the Board of Governors of the League. She also made herself better acquainted with nursing educational facilities in the United States, and ways in which they could be made available to Latin American nurses.

QUEEN MARY TAKES THOUGHT OF THE NEEDS OF MILITARY NURSE PRISONERS OF WAR IN HONG KONG AND MALAYA.

Q.A.I.M.N.S. AND T.A.N.S. PRISONERS OF WAR.

A generous donation to the B.R.C.S. Prisoners of War Fund has been sent by Her Majesty Queen Mary, President of Queen Alexandra's Imperial Military Nursing Service and the Territorial Army Nursing Service, with the request that this sum may be earmarked for food parcels and comforts for the members of Q.A.I.M.N.S. and the T.A.N.S. who are now prisoners in Hong Kong and Malaya.

This token of their President's sympathy and never failing interest in the Military Nursing Services is greatly appreciated by all the colleagues of these prisoners of war.

CHRISTMAS GIFTS.

Miss Isabel Macdonald, S.R.N., is again making an effort to dispense Christmas hospitality to those nurses whose lives are made lonely by sickness and old age, and not less so from the fact that, at this time, they would all so willingly have participated in the work of caring for the wounded in war. The effort is no easy one this year because of the difficulties and delays connected with printing and restrictions of other kinds which arise out of present day conditions. This year it would have proved impossible to print a calendar at all up to the standard of previous years, and so the means of providing the Christmas cheques takes the form of an anthology (in book form) with dates for each verse. Its title is "The Mirror of Divinity" and the selection of quotations is directed towards giving indications of how the Creator speaks through his creations, of how the Word resounds in nature. The cost of the anthology is 1s. 6d., and the proceeds have to be such as to provide between 100 and 150 nurses with such good cheer as is possible in these days. We hope, therefore, that many will order the anthology from 194, Queen's Gate, London, S.W.7, and help to achieve the desired result.

THE BRITISH COLLEGE OF NURSES, LTD.

A meeting of the Council of the British College of Nurses, Ltd., was held on Tuesday, November 17th, at 19, Queen's Gate, London, at 10.30 a.m. Mrs. Bedford Fenwick, S.R.N., President, was in the chair, and there were present Miss A. M. Bushby, S.R.N., Miss G. M. Hardy, D.N., S.R.N., Miss E. J. Haswell, S.R.N., Miss E. Martin, R.R.C., S.R.N., Fellows; and Miss H. McLoughlin, S.R.N., Member. Apologies for absence were received.

Prayers having been read by Miss A. Stewart Bryson, S.R.N. (Secretary), the Minutes were confirmed and signed.

To consider Reply to Report of the Royal College of Nursing on the Assistant Nurse.

The meeting continued its consideration of the Report of the Reconstruction Committee of the Royal College of Nursing, Section I, the Assistant Nurse, and considered clause by clause the summary of recommendations—having before it the suggestions of the "Special Committee for the Protection of the Legal Status of the Registered Nurse," which, with others, were adopted.

It was agreed to publish in pamphlet form the "Retrospect. A Demand for Justice," presented by the President, together with the considered criticism of the Summary of Recommendations of the Royal College of Nursing, including, as they do, very dangerous proposals for the de-grading of nursing education, status and economic security so far as Registered Nurses are concerned, and drastic interference with the liberty of the public.

A hope was expressed that when issued, every Fellow and Member of the British College of Nurses, Ltd., would study the reply of the Council and give it all the publicity possible.

The meeting then terminated.

REGISTRATION DAY.

December is the month of destiny for Registered Nurses.

On December 7th, 1887, 30 progressive Matrons met at 20, Upper Wimpole Street, London, with the late Dr. Bedford Fenwick in the Chair, and founded the British Nurses' Association which was incorporated by Royal Charter in 1893, almost 50 years ago.

On December 23rd, 1919, the King's consent was announced in the House of Lords to the Nurses' Registration Act for England and Wales, and a few days later to Acts for Scotland and for Ireland.

The British College of Nurses for many years celebrated on December 23rd, the great event of the legal formation of the Nursing Profession in Great Britain, by an Assembly of Fellows and Members in Conference, when the example of the Saints and Sisters of Mercy, whose devotion to the sick is an inspiration to nurses for all time, were acclaimed.

When the present epoch of barbarism is passed we shall hope to celebrate Registration Day at the British College of Nurses as heretofore.

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