

NURSING ECHOES.

The motherly portrait of H.R.H. the Duchess of Kent and her eight-month-old son, Prince Michael, reminds us that the need for midwives is terribly urgent. Young wives with husbands at the front suffer mental as well as physical distress, and were never more in need of skilled care than at the present time. Those able to help, please do so—no work is more patriotic.

At a maternity centre in the country we hear a young student nurse has to wash 20 mothers and babies in two hours. Such a task is impossible; we pity the trio—mothers, babes and nurse.

Enquiries are being made by Registered Nurses how best to combine to protect themselves against the dangers of the Nurses Bill.

Combine. Join the British College of Nurses, Ltd., which is actively engaged in protecting their interests. Apply to the Secretary, 19, Queen's Gate, London, S.W.7. The College is handsomely endowed, and means to take active measures to prevent professional deterioration.

"Near and Far," the organ of the Nurses' Christian Movement, announces its 40th Anniversary in an interesting article which records the inauguration of the Nurses' Missionary League, the original name of the Movement. It is announced that the Annual Meetings are to be held in the Livingstone Hall, Westminster, on Thursday, May 20th, at 10.30 a.m., 3 p.m. and 7 p.m., when amongst the speakers will be the Bishop of London, the Bishop of Norwich, and Bishop Haslett, of Japan.

A special birthday thanksgiving is invited for the extension of the very good work in which the Nurses' Christian Movement is engaged.

We are informed that there has been a furious onslaught in the trade nursing Press on the pamphlet issued by the British College of Nurses, Ltd., demanding justice for the State Registered Nurse; but as we never read these publications we are not perturbed,

and offer thanks for a gratuitous advertisement. The pamphlet has met with wide appreciation and now stands as evidence of the incapacity of the Royal College of Nursing and Parliament to govern a highly skilled profession without consultation or consent. It is already an historic document—the record of the Decline of Nursing in England. Every Registered Nurse should secure a copy, price 1s.

The Infectious Hospitals Matrons' Association held a Meeting in February, when several matters of interest were discussed. On May 22nd the Association will hold its Annual Meeting at the Willesden Municipal Hospital, and hopes for a good attendance. The Association is fully alive to the danger of the registration of partially trained nurses.

A message of congratulation from Queen Mary, who is Patroness, was read at the recent Annual Meeting of the Scottish Nurses' Club in Glasgow.

Expressing her deep concern in the welfare of the nursing service and interest in every step which is taken to improve salaries and conditions, Queen Mary voiced the hope that, with the inducement of improved salaries and conditions, more women will enter the nursing profession, and that nurses who have retired or married will take up nursing again. She sincerely hoped that with such improvements there would be a large increase in the number of candidates for the nursing profession.

With a total of 1,097 weekly residents, last year was the busiest in the club's 25 years of existence.

We are not surprised to learn that Queen Mary is concerned on the future recruitment of applicants for the nursing profession. It remains to be proved that intelligent girls will enter in sufficient numbers in England, now that the Bill providing for a system of degrading will soon be forced upon us.

So far the Scottish nurses have escaped. Let us hope they will realise their danger before it is too late.

Reference to the great work of Mrs. Rebecca Strong, a former Matron of Glasgow Royal Infirmary, who



H.R.H. THE DUCHESS OF KENT AND
PRINCE MICHAEL.

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