

“Those whom the Gods would destroy, they first make blind!”

Had the nurse representatives on their own Governing Body used the splendid majority vote won for them by the unerring statesmanship of their great leader, instead of giving their allegiance to other persons, the Nursing Profession would not be in the tragic chaotic condition as we see it to-day.

A.S.B.

## Why should the suggestion arise?

OUR attention has been drawn to a statement made by Dame Louisa Wilkinson, President of the Royal College of Nursing, at Hastings and reported in *The Nursing Times* of January 21st—“Nurses needed their own organisation and it was because the College realised this that it had become the representative body for nurses.”

We fear that Dame Louisa Wilkinson fails to realise that, apart from the nurses' Statutory Body appointed by Act of Parliament, the National Council of Nurses of Great Britain and Northern Ireland is the representative federation of nurses' leagues and societies in Great Britain and Northern Ireland which, if the Royal College of Nursing understood the fact, includes at present that organisation also.

Therefore, if the Royal College of Nursing were loyal to the National Council of Nurses, such a question would not arise.

## The Army Nurse Corps.

THE Army Nurse Corps of the United States of America is this month celebrating its 49th anniversary.

Colonel Mary G. Phillips, Chief of the Corps, in an anniversary statement pointed to the specific developments which had taken place during the past 12 months.

She specially referred to the establishment of a Department of Nursing in the Medical Field Service School at Brooke Army Medical Center as being a great step forward in professional education of nurses, and the addition of two more anesthesiology courses were made available to nurses.

We learn that in World War I, 136 American Army Nurses were decorated, and in World War II, about 1 nurse out of every 40 who served received decorations.

Nurses on this side of the Atlantic will remember such names as Jane A. Delano, Dora E. Thompson, Julia C. Stimson (who was the first woman to hold the rank of Major), Julia O. Flikke (the first woman to hold the rank of Colonel), Florence A. Blanchfield, who were the heads of the Corps.

Colonel Mary G. Phillips the present Superintendent of the Corps is the eighth woman to hold this office.

The culmination of more than forty years of effort on the part of Army and civilian nurse leaders came in April, 1947, when the 80th Congress passed the Army-Navy Nurses Act, Public Law 36, and rescinded the Act that established the old Army Nurse Corps. The action authorized permanent commissions for a Regular Army component in the ratio of 6 members to every 1,000 persons of the total authorized strength of the Army.

## Nursing Echoes.

WE HAVE MUCH PLEASURE in presenting a snapshot of Miss Alice Stewart Bryson, the Hon. Secretary of the British College of Nurses, Ltd., whose heroic stand for all that is best in the interests of the profession is so much appreciated.

An early follower of the late Ethel Gordon Fenwick, she took no small part in the great struggle for the State Registration of Nurses, and has taken an active part in the work of the British College of Nurses, Ltd., during the past 20 years.



Miss Alice Stewart Bryson, S.R.N., F.B.C.N.

HIS MAJESTY THE KING has been graciously pleased to send an annual subscription of £1,000 for 1950 to King Edward's Hospital Fund for London.

A FURTHER instalment has also been received of £100,000 from the Nuffield Trust for the Special Areas. It will be recalled that in founding this Trust Lord Nuffield provided that any sums that might be available by way of repayment of loans or otherwise from his Trust for the Special Areas should pass to King Edward's Hospital Fund for London.

A total sum of £1,250,000 has now been received.

WE THANK THE MATRON of the London Hospital for a copy of *Review* No. XVIII of the London Hospital League of Nurses in its familiar blue cover adorned by the hospital badge picked out in red.

The illustrations are beautifully presented on fine art paper, and photographers and printers have combined their efforts to provide a journal worthy of the London Hospital League of Nurses.

One of the highlights of the past year was the presenta-

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