

A NIGHTINGALE
MEMORIAL

284

Endowing Courses in Health

To the Editor of the Manchester Guardian.

Sir,—Florence Nightingale was the creator of modern nursing in all its branches. She revolutionised hospitals and hospital administration and laid the foundations of the things which safeguard our health to-day in district nursing, maternity, and public health work. It is inevitable, therefore, that she should have become a great international figure, venerated and revered wherever there is a nursing service, however rudimentary. It was ever her desire that the benefits and reforms which she established in her native land should be shared by all nations and peoples. Consequently no merely national memorial, however excellent, could adequately keep alive and extend the enduring principles of her universal service to mankind.

With this in mind, some twenty countries have formed National Florence Nightingale Memorial Committees to further a scheme which would have been after Miss Nightingale's own heart as her permanent memorial. The memorial will take the form of the endowment, in London, of post-graduate courses of training in public health and of teaching and administration in schools of nursing. These courses, which are open to fully trained nurses of all nations, are already in operation, having been established soon after the war by the League of Red Cross Societies, with the collaboration of Bedford College for Women (University of London) and the College of Nursing, and there is a comfortable hostel for the students at 15, Manchester Square, London, W. 1. The scholarships have been financed from year to year by the League of Red Cross Societies (which has now exhausted its money available for the purpose) and the efforts of the nurses federated in the International Council of Nurses. Some 220 fully trained nurses from 43 countries, including our own, our colonies and dependencies, have completed the training and returned to their home countries to fill positions of importance and responsibility.

The sum required is £200,000, of which it is hoped to raise £40,000 by next July. May I commend the appeal of the National Florence Nightingale Memorial Committee of Great Britain to the interest of your readers in the hope that her own country, which owes so much to her, will take an honourable and generous share in raising this memorial?

Donations will be received with gratitude by the Duchess of Devonshire, president of the National Florence Nightingale Memorial, 14, Grosvenor Crescent, London S.W. 1.—Yours, &c.

EVELYN DEVONSHIRE, President
National Florence Nightingale
Memorial.

14, Grosvenor Crescent, London,
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