

### Notice.

WE hope all our nurse readers will give careful attention to the paper printed in this week's issue, entitled "The Professional Idea." The inspiring words of a noble man are doubly welcome to British nurses at this sad crisis of the professional history, when, after a ten years' struggle for the improvement of their profession, they are threatened with the degradation of the withdrawal of those rights and privileges granted to them under the old Bye-Laws. That such a suggestion could have been seriously made by the Hon. Officers, is, we regret to say, the surest proof of how little the members of the British Nurses' Association, as a whole, have valued the Professional Idea.

### Comments and Replies.

*Country Matron.*—Many of the Matrons who have signed the Protest against the new Bye-Laws drawn up and proposed by the Hon. Officers, are of your opinion, and no doubt steps will be taken to discuss the situation.

*Private Nurse, London.*—The cloaks and bonnets you admire can be procured of Messrs. Debenham & Freebody, Wigmore Street, W., but we hope you will arrange to have the cloak lined differently; it is not fair to adopt the exact uniform of a society to which you do not belong. We disapprove of pink for private nursing, it is too bright—a soft shade of blue or grey is more suitable.

*Mrs. Osborne, Ryde.*—We regret to hear of your difficulty, but we fear your daughter will not be admitted to any good nursing school until she is twenty-three. It would be best for her to come to London for a few days, and arrange for a personal interview with the Matron with whom she has been corresponding.

*Trained, Dublin.*—We should advise you to write to Miss Holcroft, St. Joseph's Hospital, Clonmell, Tipperary. No doubt your offer will be gladly accepted.

*Sister, Birmingham.*—Much depends on the letter of application. It should be written in a business-like manner. Local interest is very necessary. The competition for matronships is now so keen. We wish you success.

*S. J., Gloucester.*—Thanks for kind remarks about NURSING RECORD. Men understand "politics" better than the average woman, and know that we must protest publicly if we cannot gain justice from within the Association. Every means was tried for three years to gain fair play before we made our wrongs public. As the employers of nurses, the public have a direct interest in their efficiency. We are not the servants of the medical profession, we are the servants, as they are, of the sick, and even, if the proposed new Bye-Laws are sanctioned by the Privy Council, the self-respecting nurses may be compelled to sever their connection with their own professional association, which would be unjust, after winning their own Charter.

*Miss F., Chelmsford.*—We should advise you to train, with the view of ultimately working as a district nurse, or in a workhouse infirmary. The demand for competent nurses exceeds the supply in both of these departments of nursing. The pay is not high; indeed, in the case of district nurses, it is often miserably inadequate, but if you are pecuniarily independent, you will find plenty of scope for your energies, either in a workhouse infirmary or as a district nurse. You should not enter as hospital probationer where the term of training is less than three years.

# THE REGISTERED NURSES' SOCIETY.

(THE FIRST CO-OPERATION OF CHARTERED NURSES.)

269, REGENT STREET, LONDON, W.

Telegraphic Address—"SOROR, LONDON." Telephone No. 1712 Gerrard.

This Society supplies to the Public thoroughly competent Nurses, each one of whom has passed through three years of Hospital training and has been Registered by the Royal British Nurses' Association after full enquiry into her character and capacity.

The Nurses obtain their full fees less 7½ per cent. to cover the working expenses.

EXTRACT FROM THE SECOND ANNUAL REPORT, JULY, 1896.

"The Committee have been fortunate enough to secure the active support during the past year of an increased number of leading medical practitioners, several of whom have consented to serve upon the Committee.

"During the past year, £4576 has been received—an increase of just £500 on the receipts during the preceding fourteen months.

"The Committee are, therefore, strengthened in their decision to maintain the principle upon which they have hitherto acted—to restrict membership of the Society to the very best class of trained Nurses."

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