

employers, not employed, not in any sense representative of the profession which they wish to control, but by representatives of all the great provincial hospitals, all the great London hospitals, Matrons, as well as the administrators of the funds which enable the work of those hospitals to be continued. A man of business may be a splendid pecuniary administrator, he may be a great philanthropist, but he cannot be a good judge of the conduct of a profession in which women preponderate to such an extent as they do in that of nursing.

This Constitution is a great injustice, and we can only hope that the Board of Trade will not see fit to grant the Petition; also, that it may do indirect good to the Cause of the nursing profession by rousing more of its members to a sense of the need that something must be done, and that it rests on the units to mass together and stand firm to see that that something is adequate and just, which there is a great risk at the present time that it will not be. It would be far better to muddle along as we are, than to be tied and cramped by an autocratic monopoly.—I am, Madam, faithfully yours,
MARY CICELY FAIR.

Eskdale, Cumberland.

To the Editor of the "British Journal of Nursing."

DEAR MADAM,—As an ex-Queen's Nurse, I will be very glad to sign and get signatures to a Protest if Miss Peter and the Queen's Nurses get one up against the Financiers' scheme, which, if it should unfortunately come into force, would be most detrimental to the nursing profession.—I am, Madam, yours truly,

"ALEXANDRA" NURSE.

INDESCRIBABLY MEAN.

To the Editor of the "British Journal of Nursing."

DEAR MADAM,—I think one of the most important points for nurses to keep in view concerning the suggestion to place them under the control of rich laymen is, that it is those who have for years opposed Registration who are now demanding a right to register nurses—for this new scheme is a registration scheme, pure and simple. Why this *volte face* upon the part of Sir E. Cooper Perry and his friends? It is quite apparent. A system of registration which controls nurses and reduces them to industrial impotence is approved by our employers, whilst a system of registration by which nurses are protected from unfair conditions is bitterly disapproved by these same gentlemen. Your remark, Madam, at the Protest Meeting that this was a "woman's industrial question" is quite true, and a more cunning and cruel attempt to cripple our independence has never been conceived. The men who conceived it, drafted it secretly, and are anxiously waiting to carry it out, deserve the most emphatic censure from all classes of the community. The whole thing is an indescribably mean trick, and should be exposed on the house-tops.

Yours sincerely,

F. CICELY GOWER.

THE LOGICAL OUTCOME.

To the Editor of the "British Journal of Nursing."

DEAR MADAM,—May I be allowed through your admirable paper to point some morals to adorn a tale? The latest attempt to wrest from trained nurses all power on the body which governs them would have been kept back from the knowledge of the

nursing world at large until it had been "put through," had it not been that through the medium of the BRITISH JOURNAL OF NURSING we were informed of the existence of the scheme.

Moral Number 1.—The importance to nurses of a professional journal, run not as a financial speculation, but to give voice to their opinions, and to safeguard their interests.

We trained nurses need also our professional Associations, for had we been in the unorganised condition of even ten years ago we could never have aroused such public interest in the subject in so short a time. We must have the lever afforded by co-operation if we are to deal effectively with such schemes as that which has caused so much indignation during the last month. Only through their professional societies can nurses take public action.

Moral Number 2.—The benefit to nurses of such Societies in the present and many other instances is so apparent that it should stimulate all nurses who do not belong to such a Society to at once enter into relations with one. Whether or not there is a League in connection with their training-school, they can, at any rate, join the Society for the State Registration of Trained Nurses, which is valiantly fighting to obtain their legal status. Once State Registration is attained, it would be impossible that we should be outraged by such schemes as that promulgated by the "seven laymen."

I am, Madam, yours faithfully,

LOGIC.

Comments and Replies.

Accepted Candidate.—Whether you intend to take up district nursing eventually or not, a knowledge of sanitary matters and of the laws of health will be useful to you in any branch of nursing work. By all means obtain the certificate of the Royal Sanitary Institute.

Mrs. Evans.—It is advisable that an infant should be weighed shortly after birth, and subsequently at regular intervals. If a weight chart is kept, this will be an excellent guide to the child's state of health.

Notices.

THE SOCIETY FOR STATE REGISTRATION OF TRAINED NURSES.

All those desirous of helping on the important movement of this Society to obtain a Bill providing for the Legal Registration of Trained Nurses will find an application form on page vii., or can obtain all information concerning the Society and its work from the Secretary, 431, Oxford Street, London, W.

Those nurses who are working on behalf of the above Society, and are endeavouring to spread knowledge as to its aims, may be glad to know that they can now obtain a Memorandum, giving briefly the reasons why Registration is necessary, from the Hon. Secretary, 431, Oxford Street, London, W. Price 6d. for 20 copies.

Those interested in the efficient organisation of nursing should procure the Annual Report of the Society for the State Registration of Trained Nurses from the Hon. Secretary, 431, Oxford Street, London, W. Six copies, post free, 7d., or one copy 1½d. Gives a brief review of the history of State Registration of Nurses.

OUR PRIZE PUZZLE.

Rules for competing for the Pictorial Puzzle Prize will be found on Advertisement page viii.

[previous page](#)

[next page](#)