

8. Whenever it is impracticable for a nurse to screen the sick-room so as to make it mosquito proof, she should at least make every effort to protect the person of the patient during the prescribed three days of greatest danger from infection by constantly keeping him under a bar and destroying all the mosquitoes that may chance to penetrate within it.

This paper was submitted to the Medical Society of New Orleans by Dr. Matas for its endorsement, and was then ordered to be published and circulated for the benefit of nurses, physicians, and others engaged in caring for yellow-fever patients. We reprint it from the *American Journal of Nursing*, through which channel it reached the nurses of the United States.

The article will have special interest for that increasing number of British Nurses whose work takes them into countries where yellow fever occurs. To them the knowledge of the latest methods of dealing with the disease will be of much value.

The Ethics of the Lay Nursing Press.

AN ANTI-REGISTRATION POLICY.

In the spring of this year Messrs. Macmillan and Co. issued a circular to the *Nursing World* informing it that they would at an early date issue a new nursing paper "on lines that will commend it to the whole body of nurses throughout the Kingdom," and then this body of professional women are informed that "The Journal will not concern itself with Nursing Politics, nor controversial matter"; in other words, those nurses in the United Kingdom who were in the throes of their spirited and tenacious fight for professional enfranchisement were told with gratuitous impertinence that the support they had neither desired nor solicited should not be theirs.

We are compelled to own that the registrationists were by no means perturbed by this fatuous announcement. The lay nursing press, based purely on commercial principles, had for years found it expedient to support the employer against the worker. The latter appreciated the situation to a fraction of a farthing. Both at home and abroad they had their own loyal, expert organs, inspired by a sensitive professional conscience, organs which had already brought the question of the rights and privileges of a sound professional education for nurses, and their ultimate registration by the State into the front rank of practical politics. The nation's legislators were giving the nurses' cause earnest consideration, and whether the new paper was for or against their cause was of infinitesimal moment, *they meant to work till they won!*

In due course the much-advertised publication appeared. Again on the very front page, in the largest

of type, the registrationists are solemnly warned. If these pesky people hope even for an expression of opinion on their political pranks, this satisfaction is not to be theirs. They are told (as if they did not know it) that "if a nurse wishes to read articles for or against registration (registration standing to intelligent women for an educational standard, just conditions of work, and protection for the trained and efficient from the untrained and inefficient) she knows in what quarters to find them."

"We (a stupendous we) shall replace registration politics by expert articles!" and the nursing world are further informed by some extraordinary method of reasoning upon the part of the proprietors of the new organ "that its professional side will be paramount."

IMITATION THE SINCEREST FORM OF FLATTERY.

But to return to business—for we take it business is the substratum of Messrs. Macmillan's venture—and although we feel sure the editor of the *Hospital* will realise with us that imitation is the sincerest form of flattery, still, to have one's advertisement arrangements in style and construction "lifted" *en bloc* is a little astounding. We also could have appreciated a certain amount of originality in the various departments of the literary make-up. There is a certain sameness between "Nursing Notes" and "Nursing Echoes," treated in a similar style. "Medical Notes" and "Medical Matters" also in close imitation; "Practical Hints" run "Practical Points" very close, and "Outside the Gates—Women" and "The Wider World of Women" are hardly poles asunder, to say nothing of "Coming Events."

Of the popularity of our own professionally-edited journal, its ever-increasing circulation is the surest test; but surely journalistic etiquette demands that its popular features should not be slavishly copied, nor its exclusive items of news filched weekly without a hint of indebtedness.

WE WANT TO KNOW.

Under these circumstances we may be permitted a word of inquiry and advice.

First of all, who is the mysterious person who signs the anonymous letters "Editor A. M. A.," with which all the contributors to this journal are now familiar?

Is it He, She, or It?

We have made inquiries, as in duty bound, and from a very reliable source have been told "that three trained nurses compile the paper, one acting as supervisor, but that under no circumstances will the names of these ladies be divulged, inviolable secrecy will be maintained in this particular."

Why? If the veiled trio have nothing to be ashamed of, why hide behind anonymity? Once there was an ostrich—but, as Kipling says, "that is another story."

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