

view of every right-minded person.—Believe me, dear Madam, yours faithfully,

CLARA LEE.

Ebford, S. Devon.

[This admirable letter will appeal to every just thinking man and woman, and although we do not think the action of the R.B.N.A. will materially affect the Registration question, as the powerful Society for the State Registration of Trained Nurses has the support of all the self-governing organisations of trained nurses, and of many influential medical men and the intelligent laity. The Bill it will have introduced into Parliament will provide for a just share of Direct Representatives to safeguard the rights of the rank and file of the profession.

In this connection it is most instructive to study the "Memoranda Affecting the Medical Profession," submitted in last week's *British Medical Journal* for the consideration of Parliamentary candidates.

QUESTIONS—

Would you support in Parliament a Bill for the amendment of the Medical Acts based upon the following general principles?

1. That at least half the members of the General Medical Council should be directly elected by the general body of medical and dental practitioners in the country, instead of the large majority, as at present, being appointed by the universities or corporations, bodies financially interested in the examining and licensing of students and practitioners.
2. That the General Medical Council should have complete control over the registration and education of medical and dental students, including fixing the standard of preliminary general education requisite for admission to medical study.
3. That there be a "one-portal" system for admission to medical and dental practice—namely, through a State Examination, conducted by the General Medical Council under the supervision of the Privy Council.

These questions embody the principles and policy of the Bill promoted for Nurses' Registration by our State Registration Society, and for which we must stand firm as a rock.—[ED.]

HISTORY REPEATS ITSELF.

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

DEAR MADAM,—The Council Meeting of the R.B.N.A., held on Monday, was quite typical of old times. There were present a phalanx of fur-coated medical men, and an intimidated group of timorous nurses. Miss Forrest, of Bournemouth, and Miss Barton, Chelsea Infirmary, alone appeared to have the courage of their opinions, both of which ladies attempted to have justice done to nurses on the all-important matter of direct representation on the Governing Body suggested in the Registration Bill. History, however, repeated itself, their suggestions were met with contempt, and later a hubbub arose amongst the medicos as to the claims of their own individual specialties. Dr. Outterson Wood clamoured for "Mentals," and Dr. Biernacki claimed representation for "Fevers," and ultimately they got yet another medical man added to the number.

It was a sorry sight of domineering, discourteous men—and flabby women—and if either party were

representative of the medical and nursing professions in this country it would make one tremble for the welfare of the sick. But as the R.B.N.A. is held in well-deserved contempt by every liberal-minded man and woman acquainted with its very devious history, we may take heart of grace, and continue to work for righteous legislation which will benefit nurses, doctors, and patients alike.

Yours,

DISGUSTED.

Three Prize Competitions.

The Editor offers the following prizes:—

No. 1. PRACTICAL NURSING ARTICLE.

A prize of £2 2s. for the best article on a Practical Nursing Subject, of from 1,300 to 1,400 words. Illustrations are not compulsory, but add to the value of the article. Papers competing for this prize must be received by the Editor not later than Saturday, February 3rd. The article gaining the prize and the name or pseudonym of the prize-winner will appear on February 10th.

No. 2. PUZZLE COMPETITION.

Details will be found on page viii.

No. 3. REMINISCENCE DURING TRAINING.

A prize of 10s. 6d. for the most interesting Reminiscence during Training, not to exceed 500 words. Papers competing for this prize must be received by the Editor not later than Saturday, February 10th. The paragraph gaining the prize and the name or pseudonym of the prize-winner will be published on February 17th.

CONDITIONS GOVERNING COMPETITIONS

1 AND 3

Each competitor must enclose with his or her article or paragraph a sealed envelope, outside which is written the title of the contents only, and inside the title of the contents with the author's full name and address.

The Editor reserves to herself the right to publish any of the articles or paragraphs received for the competition. In such event payment will be made at the current rate; such article or paragraph to become the property and copyright of the BRITISH JOURNAL OF NURSING.

All competitions must be addressed to the Editor, at 20, Upper Wimpole Street, London, W.

Notices.

CONTRIBUTIONS.

The Editor will at all times be pleased to consider articles of a suitable nature for insertion in this Journal—those on practical nursing are specially invited. The Editor will also be pleased to receive paragraphs, such as items of nursing news, results of nurses' examinations, new appointments, reports of hospital functions, also letters on questions of interest to nurses, and newspapers marked with reports of matters of professional interest.

Such communications must be duly authenticated with name and address, not necessarily for publication, but as evidence of good faith, and should be addressed to the Editor, 20, Upper Wimpole Street, London, W.

OUR PRIZE PUZZLE.

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

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