

How is the discipline of the training school for nurses, in any hospital, concerned in the religion of the matron? Would a Wesleyan, or a Unitarian, or a Jew, be more or less welcome than a Roman Catholic? Where are we to draw the line?

I believe that religious intolerance will only end when all religions die. The sooner the better. Let us get back to Christianity.

Yours, etc.,

FREEMASON.

[We find that practically county hospitals are so far Protestant institutions that Protestant chaplains are usually attached to them. Protestant prayers are used in the Nurses' Home and wards, and also the Protestant ritual is used if a chapel is attached, although the patients in the wards have the solace of the ministrations of their own priests and ministers, other than those of the State Church. It is useless to deny that where the Matron is unable to have spiritual communion with the nursing staff without suspicion of proselytising, or to join in their religious life, an immense influence for good, and the maintenance of discipline is denied to her, and much happy intercourse and help to the nurses. So long as all other religious denominations are "heretic" to those of the Roman Catholic faith, so long will sects fear one another, and fail to fuse into the pure and simple Christianity of Christ—a desirable consummation indeed.—Ed.]

NURSERY SCHOOLS.

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

DEAR MADAM,—The recent proposal to improve the condition of children under five years of age by sending them to "Nursery Schools" must meet with the heartiest approval of everyone. It gladdens the heart to read the list of delightful things intended for the health, happiness, and gentle training of children who so sorely need them. There is but one flaw in the system, the proposal to keep "pets, such as goldfish and birds," in perpetual captivity as an object-lesson for the rising generation. Captivity is a punishment, and a creature robbed of liberty becomes a captive, not a pet. To see fish gasping round and round a glass prison, or birds pining behind bars, can instil no idea but that of cruel tyranny over weak and helpless things—an incipient longing for the exercise of might over right. Moreover, as a student of Nature, I must add that the observation of natural objects in unnatural circumstances is worthless, and can but lead to error. In short, the introduction of living suffering creatures as toys into the schoolroom is a painful mistake. Shakespeare beautifully and truly describes the effect of cruelty to animals when practised for the fancied good of human beings when he makes Cornelius say:—

"Your Highness,
shall by this practice but make hard your heart."
Yours, etc.,

EDITH CARRINGTON.

Portway, Wantage.

HOW NURSES CAN HELP TO OBTAIN THE SUFFRAGE.

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

DEAR MADAM,—After serious consideration it has been decided not to organise a special "Nurses' Union" to help obtain the Suffrage, owing to the difficulties attendant on their professional work, in getting them, with any degree of certainty, to attend at committee and other meetings.

We shall be glad, therefore, to welcome them as members of the London City Union, which is the Union most in touch with the affairs of the National Women's Social and Political Union, and which holds a business or special social monthly at the Offices, 4, Clements Inn. Subscription, 1d. weekly. Members of this Union join with the National in the Thursday evening "At-homes," at the smaller Portman Rooms, W., Dorset Street entrance, at 8 p.m. Some interesting lectures in connection with this movement will be held during the winter months. Subscriptions can be paid monthly or quarterly to the Treasurer, Miss H. R. Kerr. If receipt is required stamp should be enclosed.

Trusting I may have your kind help,
I remain,

Yours faithfully,

EDA BERLON.

10, Colosseum Terrace, Regent's Park, N.W.

Comments and Replies.

Potter.—We should advise you to obtain a little book, "Urine Examination made Easy," by Dr. Carruthers, published by Messrs. J. A. Churchill, 7, Great Marlborough Street, London, W., which gives excellent instruction on the subject. We believe the price is 1s. It is impossible to give useful information on the matter in a short paragraph.

NOTICE.

An application form for those who wish to become members of the Society for the State Registration of Trained Nurses will be found on page iii. of cover. It will soon be too late to help on the important work of this Society. No habitual reader of this journal can, we feel sure, be content to stand aside and let others found the great Profession of Nursing. Now is the time to help, and an election of members takes place on the 30th inst.

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 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.

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