

of War, we have only to define our just claims and push them forward to win this long-drawn-out duel.

#### CONTROL BY NURSING SCHOOLS.

(3) The policy of the third party, which has adopted State Registration in name, whilst in practice reserving the control of the Nursing Profession to the Nursing Schools, is in our opinion even more deterrent to sound professional evolution than that of uncompromising obstruction. Control by Nursing Schools is epitomised in the Memorandum and Articles of Association, and in the Bill drafted by the College of Nursing, Limited. Briefly the College, which claims to organize and control the whole nursing profession without consent, is a lay corporation which voices the opinions of managers of Hospitals and Poor Law Institutions through their matrons and consultant medical officers, who almost entirely compose its nominated Council; and which has the effrontery to term its Constitution "democratic," the while carefully excluding any direct representation of the nursing profession from its governing body for three years, and from the Preliminary Council to be set up by its Bill, which is empowered to make the rules and regulations to which the registered nurses have to conform. This third party is composed largely of matrons who have signed Lord Knutsford's manifestoes that "any system of State Registration would be detrimental to the Public, and harmful to the best Nurses themselves," and we are bound to confess that in assuming control of the nursing profession by divine right these ladies are apparently just as much opposed to self-governing legislation for trained nurses as they were in their anti-registration incarnation! Moreover, the fact that the Burdett press is at the disposal of, and is utilized weekly by the College officials, sounds a note of warning concerning its "democratic" methods, which it will be well for lovers of liberty to note and remember.

It will be interesting to watch the evolution of events in 1917.

We professional registrationists must work without ceasing for just and progressive legislation, with conscience, courage, and circumspection.

#### OUR PRIZE COMPETITION.

WHAT IS A PARASITE? WHAT EXTERNAL PARASITES ATTACK MAN? DESCRIBE IN DETAIL THE TREATMENT AND MANAGEMENT OF SCABIES, WITH SPECIAL REFERENCE TO THE PREVENTION OF THE SPREAD OF THE DISEASE.

We have pleasure in awarding the prize this week to Miss Bessie Grey Johnson, Baldwyn's Park, Bexley.

#### PRIZE PAPER.

A parasite is any organism which lives in or upon any other organism, at whose expense it derives its nourishment, and usually its habitation. There are, however, two kinds—the internal and external vegetable and the internal and external animal.

Mistletoe is perhaps one of the best-known parasites belonging to the external vegetable variety. Those which infect the human body may be either vegetable or animal.

The following are examples of a few of the internal parasites:—Cestoides = tape worms; trematoda = flat worms; hematodes = round worms; amæbæ coli = organisms found in mucus passed from the intestines of patients suffering from dysentery; hæmatozoa = organisms found in the blood of persons suffering from malaria (and in animals living in regions subjected to the invasion of the tsetse fly).

The external parasites belonging to the *animal* variety which attack man are:—Gnats. Mosquitoes. Pediculi = pediculus capitis = head louse; pediculus vestimentorum = body louse; pediculus pubis = crab louse. Pulex irritans = common flea. Cimex lectularius = bed bug. Sarcoptes scabii (causing scabies). Bemodex folliculorum (found in the sebaceous sacs and hair follicles). Sarcopsylla penetrans (the female burrows under the skin, and swells up to twice her size with eggs, so producing hyperæmia and pus).

The common sheep tick is occasionally parasitic on man.

External *vegetable* parasites comprise the fungi which are responsible for ringworm, favus, and erythrasma.

Scabies (or itch) is a multiform disease of the skin, consisting of papules, vesicles, pustules, and sometimes bullæ, which are due to the itch acarus.

The female acarus, after impregnation, bores her way under the skin in an oblique direction, so that as the superficial layers of the epidermis are detached by friction, she still remains the same depth from the surface, and as she proceeds she lays her eggs.

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