

by referring to the Register to have placed all the *bona fide* trained nurses in the posts of authority due only to the trained women, and much mismanagement and friction would have been avoided." How? A very large majority of the *bona fide* trained nurses decline to place their professional qualifications on a voluntary Register promoted by a lay company, such as the College of Nursing, Ltd.; and the promoter of the College (Sir Arthur Stanley), as Chairman of the British Red Cross Committee, has supported through thick and thin the unsupportable system of placing untrained Commandants in charge of Red Cross and other hospitals, and recognising as Matrons women of social standing who are totally untrained. Then Miss Cowlin gave the credit to Sir Arthur Stanley of realising, as Chairman of the B.R.C., the necessity for a central nursing authority. Why did he not realise this burning need when we, as trained nurses, co-operated, drafted our Registration Bill, and had it presented to the House of Commons for fourteen sessions, during which time he was a member? Did he ever read our communications or petitions, or our Bill, during that fourteen years? Apparently not. Miss Cowlin, as a Bart's woman, has no excuse for her apparent ignorance of nursing history—nor for ignoring the strenuous work done by former Matrons of that great school, and of its Nurses' League.

Then, in discussing details of the College Bill, Miss Cowlin led us to believe that what was good in it was spontaneously inserted, when she is fully aware that every decent provision has been either cribbed from our Bill or inserted after repeated demands during negotiations by the Central Committee. As it stands it is a most dangerous Bill and must be opposed.

Yours sincerely,

ONCE AT BART'S.

#### TOO PATIENT UNDER WRONGS.

To the Editor of THE BRITISH JOURNAL OF NURSING.

DEAR EDITOR,—With many others I wish to express my gratitude to you for your unwearied efforts in the cause of nursing. It is an uphill struggle, but surely in time the public will be brought to see how important it is for the future well-being of the race that only those properly qualified should be allowed to minister to the sick and suffering. If it is possible to register a uniform for V.A.D.s, there is nothing to prevent nurses having the same protection. I trust the R.B.N.A. will take the matter up. We have been too patient under our wrongs, and now is the time to make a determined stand.

With kind regards,

Yours faithfully,

J. MELITA JONES, R.N.

Trained Nurses' Club, Auckland, N.Z.

#### ARE MEDICAL WOMEN POPULAR WITH NURSES.

To the Editor of THE BRITISH JOURNAL OF NURSING.

DEAR MADAM,—As a fully trained nurse (Bart's), who has been in the profession for sixteen years,

may I be allowed to state that my experience of medical women has not been that either of the Sister quoted in your Editorial, or that of "Old-fashioned Hospital Nurse." I have worked both with the older type of medical woman and with the modern, and my experience has always been a happy one.

Yours truly,

THEODORA HARRIS.

58, Slack Lane, Derby.

DEAR MADAM,—I am glad THE BRITISH JOURNAL OF NURSING has brought forward the question of the treatment of nurses by medical women. My experience has been a most unhappy one. I worked under medical women in "Scottish Hospitals" and they treated our Matron and the nursing staff with marked discourtesy. Let us hope some of them see this Journal.

Yours truly,

A SISTER OF EXPERIENCE.

#### THE VILLAGE IDIOT.

To the Editor of THE BRITISH JOURNAL OF NURSING.

DEAR MADAM,—You have only to see the average woman medical student, so *gauche* and untidy, to know that unless she greatly improves before she is qualified, she would not have much civility to spare for trained nurses. I quite agree with "A Hospital Sister's View." The coming of the medical woman in any numbers is going to affect the nursing profession. For instance, "brains" will go into medicine which pays, and the "village idiot" will "take up" nursing, which does not.

Yours sincerely,

C. V. A.

#### KERNELS FROM CORRESPONDENCE.

A "Londoner" writes: "Many of us realised in my day at the London, that reforms were urgently required, but when a probationer can be discharged at a moment's notice, and after the wrong is done, the committee are content to hear of it, we women, who have our living to earn, saw no wisdom in ruining our professional career; we just could not afford it. Miss Yatman's heroic protest and its futility was a proverb in the nineties—and she had money!"

#### OUR PRIZE COMPETITION.

##### QUESTIONS.

October 26th.—In what conditions is transfusion of blood used in war surgery?

November 2nd.—Describe the treatment of fractures by massage.

#### OUR ADVERTISERS.

Do not omit to buy, as far as possible, everything you need from "Our Advertisers," and to recommend them to your friends. They are all first-class firms.

[previous page](#)

[next page](#)