

have in them many points which all must regret. It is this, the lower side of unionism, which will most affect nursing if the idea is to be applied to it; and, as I have shown, if it be, it must infallibly kill its real soul. How shall it profit nursing if it gain even the whole world and lose its own soul?

We here know, better I think than most, what the secret of success in such a school as ours is. We know that it depends on two things, on the personal relations which exist between a matron and her nurses, and on the discipline under which alone our work can be brought to a successful end. I can put neither of these considerations first, each depends on the other. Without discipline all work were waste, without personal interest work would become over-burdensome. Introduce a third element, an outside element, an union to which a nurse, if she joins it must perforce owe loyalty and obedience, and you at once disturb the balance which alone makes work such as ours both possible and perfect. No man can serve two masters, and a house divided against itself falls.

But, some will say, the view you take of nursing is so altruistic that it would swallow up—a surely not unimportant thing—the economic welfare of the individual nurse; and that this has to some extent been the case in the past, we are all ready to admit. To-day, however, it is no longer so, for organisations both governmental and private, have recently come into being, and to these may safely be left the personal welfare of the nurse. Not long established, their influence is already being felt. A nurse to-day who is a member of one or other of the recognised nurses' societies can follow her vocation to its highest outlook with the certainty that her economic position will be safeguarded by the society she has joined, and controls by her vote.

I may be altogether wrong, but this is a burning topic and for that reason I have brought it before you. You are not bound to accept these views, but everyone of you will have to make a decision and come to a conclusion about them.

SETTLE THE QUESTION RIGHT.

"However the battle is ended,
Though proudly the victor comes,
With flaunting flags and neighing nags
And echoing roll of drums;
Still truth proclaims his motto
In letters of living light,
No question is ever settled
Until it is settled right."

"O men bowed down with labour,
O women young yet old,
O heart oppressed in the toiler's breast
And crushed by the power of gold,
Keep on with your weary battle
Against triumphant might;
No question is ever settled
Until it is settled right."

—Ella Wheeler Wilcox.

APPOINTMENTS.

MATRONS.

Royal Infirmary, Wigan.—Miss Amy H. Wilford has been appointed Matron. She was trained at the Sheffield Royal Infirmary, and has been Assistant Matron at the Royal Infirmary, Wigan, for nearly four years. Miss Wilford has also been Theatre Sister, Ward Sister, and Night Superintendent at Sheffield Royal Infirmary, and has had one year's training in Fever nursing at Chester Isolation Hospital.

Nelson Maternity Hospital.—Miss Ellen Barker has been appointed Matron. She was trained at St. Pancras Infirmary, and at the Woolwich Military Families' Hospital. She has also been Superintendent of District Midwives and Matron of a Maternity Home under the Bradford Corporation. She has been Staff Nurse at the Jessop Hospital, Sheffield, and Sister at the Children's Hospital, Sheffield. She is a certified midwife.

MESSAGE SISTER.

Princess Alice Home, Slough.—Miss A. I. Riding has been appointed Message Sister. She was trained at the Brownlow Hill Infirmary, Liverpool, and has been Staff Nurse and Masseuse at the National Hospital, Queen Square, Bloomsbury, and has also had experience in the orthopaedic department of the Royal Infirmary, Liverpool, and in the electrical department at Guy's Hospital.

NIGHT SUPERINTENDENT.

Taunton and Somerset Hospital, Taunton.—Miss Ella Spackman has been appointed Night Superintendent. She was trained at St. Bartholomew's Hospital, London, and has since held the position of Sister and Night Sister at the Norfolk War Hospital, and worked in Salonika as a member of Queen Alexandra's Imperial Nursing Service Reserve. She is a certified midwife.

SUPERINTENDENT NIGHT NURSE.

Kensington Infirmary, Marloes Road, Kensington.—Miss Dora Manning has been appointed Superintendent Night Nurse. She was trained and held the position of Sister in the same institution. She is a certified midwife, and holds the certificate of the Medico-Psychological Association.

THE PASSING BELL.

It is with deep regret that we record the death of Mr. J. S. Wood, a regret which will be shared by many members of the nursing profession who know how genuine an interest he took in the things which affect their welfare. He was an indefatigable worker for the voluntary hospitals, for the support of which he raised no less a sum than £500,000. He founded the Society of Women Journalists, and did much to open journalism to women. He founded *The Gentlewoman* nearly thirty years ago, and was a member of the Grand Council of the Primrose League.

COMING EVENTS.

January 5th.—Meeting to consider Unemployment Insurance Act convened by Minister of Labour. 8, Richmond Terrace, S.W. 11 a.m.

January 14th.—General Nursing Council for England and Wales. Monthly meeting, Ministry of Health, Whitehall. 2 p.m.

WORD FOR THE WEEK.

"If you want to govern the world you must know how to say 'Bo!' to a goose."—*Disraeli.*

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