

of women have refused to qualify themselves for their responsible duties to the sick during the past twenty years, and have posed and worn nurses' uniform, and taken trained nurses' fees for years. These workers should now be compelled to deal honestly with the sick. No one wishes to interfere with their work, but that trained nurses and the General Nursing Council should be invited to "cover" their ignorance by granting them status and a protected title to which they have no right, is, in our opinion, entirely inexcusable. The Nurses' Registration Act, for which we worked for thirty years, aimed at promoting *justice where justice is due*, that is to the conscientious, skilled, qualified nurse, and to the sick who, for so many years have been at the mercy of ignorant and unskilled persons. Let us brush humbug aside, and stand firmly for what is right. Continual interference by the College Council with the work of the General Nursing Council, and its attempt to depreciate its work, is now well recognised.—ED.]

#### WE AGREE.

To the Editor of THE BRITISH JOURNAL OF NURSING.

DEAR MADAM,—May I point out that three weeks is not sufficient time for the Government and private nurses serving abroad to record their votes?

It would disenfranchise those in India, Ceylon, Malay States, Hong Kong, Shanghai, Cape Colony, Uganda, St. Helena, &c.

I do not know if all the nurses serving abroad are entitled to eleven or twelve votes each, but I take it that in their own interests they will all have submitted their names for State Registration.

To me it seems not merely a matter of regret, but of injustice if these very capable, excellent women are not given time in which to voice their opinions and wishes.

I am, Madam,  
Yours faithfully,  
F. DINNING.

Casa Ramone,  
San Giorgio, Intra.

[As only two weeks are allowed for the Election, it will be a tight squeeze for Nurses in Italy to record their votes.—ED.]

#### WHY TRAIN!

To the Editor of THE BRITISH JOURNAL OF NURSING.

DEAR EDITOR,—The following extract from the Annual Report of a well-known British Hospital in the South of France is a typical illustration of the archaic ethics undermining the Nursing Profession which you have fought so long, and so valiantly, to improve:—

"In July, 1922, Miss (—), who for three years had acted as Matron, ceased to fill that position, and the Committee have been so fortunate as to secure the services of Mrs. (—), the widow of the late Dr. (—), as Lady Superintendent."

Miss (—) is a *trained* Matron who served the Hospital with the utmost loyalty since it reopened in 1919; she only "ceased to fill that position" (the term savours somewhat of the

Bastille!), because she was dismissed *without explanation or acknowledgement*, and her place filled by the *untrained* "lady" the Committee were "so fortunate as to secure"!

Had trained nurses the least *esprit de corps* such things could never take place. But, alas, the "Lady Superintendent" has also been "so fortunate as to secure" as many of them as she requires; in fact, her list overflowed in a very short time.

The motto "every man for himself and the Devil take the hindmost" is decidedly practical, if not ideal, and its human result "the Red Flag."

Yours sincerely,  
E. P. SHEKLETON,  
Member P.U.T.N.

C.o. 137, Ebury Street, S.W. 1.

[We had heard rumours of this injustice. The untrained "lady" is the widow of a doctor with two grown-up sons and a daughter! If trained women were loyal to their cloth, such "jobs" would not be possible.—ED.]

#### KERNELS FROM CORRESPONDENCE.

Member of the Royal Infirmary Glasgow Nurses' League.—"I was prevented attending our Annual Re-union Dinner on December 7th, much to my sorrow, but beg to thank you sincerely for sending me a copy of THE BRITISH JOURNAL OF NURSING, containing such a full and interesting account of the gathering. Governors, doctors, nurses, all meeting together in such a fine spirit of comradeship—just as it should be if we are to attain the best possible for our people in health and in sickness."

#### WHERE TO REGISTER.

Apply for Application Form to the Registrar:—  
ENGLAND AND WALES—12, York Gate, Regent's Park, London, N.W.

SCOTLAND—13, Melville Street, Edinburgh.

IRELAND—33, St. Stephen's Green, Dublin.

Forms should be carefully filled in and the names given for references from persons who have agreed to supply them.

#### OUR PRIZE COMPETITION QUESTIONS.

January 13th.—What purposes are served by (a) chyme; (b) chyle; (c) pancreatic juice; and (d) bile?

January 20th.—Give the most interesting report of Second Sight you have experienced, or of which you have been told.

January 27th.—Give an account of the diet and treatment in a case of scarlatinal nephritis.

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