

who have gained admission to the Inns of Court or to the great schools of medicine, and through their eyes thousands of their fellow-countrymen will see England."

Our medical schools are, it is true, open to all Empire students. Admission, however, is not always easy, and house appointments, following qualification, are, with rare exceptions, not available for coloured graduates. These house appointments are a much-valued supplement to the qualifying training and count as evidence of distinction in studies.

With regard to nurses, while we appreciate the fact that the London County Council hospitals as well as Guy's and St. Mary's in London, and the Birmingham General Hospital, admit coloured probationers, the Overseas Nursing Association made inquiries at 18 hospitals in London and the Provinces and were told that none of these would admit coloured probationers.

The writers claim that to make what is practically a colour bar among medical students and nurses creates bitterness and has unfortunate effects overseas.

It would be interesting to have statistics from hospitals where coloured probationers are admitted for training how they respond to it, and also the opinion of patients on this matter.

Owing to the serious shortage of probationers, the London County Council has appointed Miss Hayter, senior member of the School Nursing Staff of the London Public Health Department, as a recruiting officer. She will visit schools and place before pupils the advantages of nursing as a profession.

The Hospital and Medical Services Committee of the L.C.C. are responsible for recommending this form of publicity. This is the committee largely responsible for nursing affairs—on which no Registered Nurse has a seat although the British College of Nurses has recommended that expert opinion should be available on it on more than one occasion.

Dr. Somerville Hastings is the Chairman of the Committee, and Miss Rickards, who has no professional qualifications so far as nursing is concerned, is the vice-chairman.

It was ever thus—"hewers of wood and drawers of water" we may be, but responsible for our own professional affairs, No. When officious and ignorant persons cease to dictate how nurses may breathe and have their being—the shortage may cease, but not before.

The nursing staffs of five hospitals in Hartlepool, Durham, are to have a 48-hour working week, and we learn that in many other institutions arrangements are being made for a decrease in the hours of duty. It is to be hoped that shorter service will enable duties to be performed with a minimum of fatigue.

The Chairman of the Children's Country Holidays Fund writes: "Last year we sent away over 28,000 children and we hope to send at least that number this year. Unfortunately we are still in urgent need of voluntary workers without whose help the children cannot have the holiday. May we again have your help in making known our needs to your readers?"

The work of the "visitors" is most attractive. They come in close contact with the children and are well rewarded by the transformation of the boys and girls who have had a fortnight of fresh air owing to their efforts.

All particulars can be obtained from the Secretary of the Children's Country Holidays Fund, 18, Buckingham Street, Strand, W.C.2.

Nurses are very busy women but may have friends who would be interested in this good work.

Guy's Hospital is the first hospital in the country to have a branch bank for the exclusive use of the staff. It has just been opened in part of the main building. There the entire hospital staff are paid, roughly 500 receiving their salaries weekly, and about 1,000 monthly. The staff will be permitted to use the branch for the paying in as well as the withdrawal of money.

The New Zealand Nursing Journal for January just to hand is full of good things. It is the best of news that *Kai Tiaki* is now to be issued monthly, instead of bi-monthly. Nursing is now so important a part of social service throughout the world that a professional organ entirely controlled and financed by members of the Nursing Profession is imperative.

In describing "A Brilliant Gathering" an Investiture at Government House at Wellington, we learn "That among those present on whom his Excellency Viscount Galway, the Governor-General, conferred the honour of the M.B.E. were the following members of the Nursing Profession: Miss Boyce, Matron of St. Helen's Hospital, Christchurch; Miss Cookson, Matron of Wellington Hospital; Miss A. C. Inglis, Matron of Waipukurau Hospital; Miss Morgan, Matron of the Alexandra Hospital, Wellington; and Miss E. P. Tennent, Matron of the Dunedin Hospital." This is the first occasion that members of the Nursing Profession have been included in the list of civil honours conferred by His Majesty the King to New Zealand, and we heartily congratulate the members of our profession so honoured.

Another item of news is that a Branch of the Catholic Nurses' Guild has now been formed in Dunedin. The primary object of this Guild is to promote the religious, professional and social life of Roman Catholic Nurses. Registered Nurses, Midwives, Maternity Nurses, Karitane Nurses, Masseuses, Radiographers, Student Nurses, and those in care of the mentally afflicted are eligible for membership. Nuns who are nurses may be admitted as honorary members.

The Guild, which is under the patronage of the Bishop of the Diocese, is governed by a small committee, with which is associated a Spiritual Director. The only disadvantage of sectarian organisation is that it can never attain to national status.

In commemorating the origin of the first white settlement in Australia do not let us forget that other brave men of Dutch and British origin had explored its coast and made observations, before Captain Phillip planted the British flag in 1788 at Sydney, or to express the hope that for the future the aborigines will find special advocates in the ranks of our profession.

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