

added from year to year. It is, therefore, well to bear in mind that no fresh entries are made in a *Register* after date of Registration; it must correspond with the Certificate of Registration; though a slip is sent to give the Nurse the opportunity of seeing that her entry is correct in address, spelling, etc. But in dealing with the Directory it will, in time, become a most interesting volume, if each Nurse will enter up her year's work, change her address if necessary, add the names of professional papers she may have written, and so on.

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AT the Evangelismos Hospital at Athens, which was organised by Queen OLGA, of Greece, and built in 1884, the domestic and nursing arrangements appear to us, with our preconceived professional ideas, to be very extraordinary. The whole of the management of the Hospital is confided to a Council of Administration, composed of seven ladies, who meet weekly, and take it in turns to spend the morning at the Hospital superintending the work in each department. Although not bound by any vow, each Nurse is only permitted to enter the Evangelismos after she has gone through a noviciate fitting her for the duties of her future life. If, after this preliminary trial she is still desirous of being a Nurse, she is obliged to sign a contract not to marry for six years! It is to be presumed that, in Greece, the male sex possess the patience of Jacob. The Matron is the wife of a great Athenian merchant—Madame SYNGROS—and she does not live in the Hospital.

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MARIE GAMET, the foundress of the Order of the "Little Sisters of the Poor," died last week at the "Mother House" of her Order in Brittany, aged seventy-four. She lived to see her institute served by 4,000 Sisters, scattered all over the world in 253 houses. They are at work in Ceylon, North Africa, Australia, and North and South America; they are all over France; and, in England, aged paupers are kept off the rates in eighteen refuges. They never break their own fast until they have begged a breakfast for their poor, and are of all of the Roman Catholic Sisterhoods—the one most in sympathy with the Catholic Church.

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WE have to announce that a series of six papers on the Royal British Nurses' Association, including that from Her Royal Highness the President, will appear in these columns. The next article will be from Dr. BEZLEY-THORNE, from the point of view of a medical man.

Matrons in Council.



I MUST congratulate the NURSING RECORD, and the whole nursing world, that this paper has passed into the hands of an experienced Nurse; one who is a Nurse and has been a Matron; one who, as we have proved, has the welfare and advancement of the Nursing profession warmly at heart, and the perseverance and talent to help it in no small degree. Hitherto, all nursing papers have been in the hands of laymen, and they have given us but little of what we want or need. But now that this paper has secured so eminently suitable an Editor, we may expect to procure an interesting, instructive, and amusing paper.

In opening this column for discussion among Matrons, the NURSING RECORD makes a new and important departure. It has been the habit of Matrons, in the past, not to let their right hand know what their left hand was doing; very wise this in regard to the immediate business of their Hospitals, but in the broader matters affecting the discipline of Nurses, their training, and other general matters, this policy is apt to cramp the mind and narrow the view; they are inclined to think their own system and Hospital perfect, and so no progress is made. An interchange of ideas alters all this, and has a widening, encouraging, and stimulating effect.

The Nursing Profession is, at present, in a state of transition, and, therefore, in great confusion, and as it is in the position of being dependent on another profession, this phase will probably last longer than it otherwise would do. To produce Cosmos from this Chaos we must have the hearty co-operation of the medical profession. This has been most fully accorded to us in the past, and will not, I am sure, be withdrawn from us in the future.

I should suggest that, during the winter months, this part of the paper might be utilized for a free discussion on the meaning of the term "Trained Nurse," and what it implies, viz.—What amount of theoretical and practical work it should necessitate; the need of examinations; their number; at what time in the term of training they should occur; their bearing on the after-career of a Nurse; the need of practical training in class by the Matron; preliminary examinations; the payment of fees, terms of service, and the hundred and one small, but important, matters which are needed to make up the definition of a "Trained Nurse." At present the term has no connotation.

To become a qualified medical man implies that a man has done a certain amount of study, and has satisfied competent examiners that he has the necessary amount of knowledge. As in Medicine, so in Law—a man may call himself a Barrister, or a Solicitor, implies that he has done a certain amount of study, and proved that he possesses a certain amount of knowledge of the Law. So, also, in all skilled trades. An apprenticeship of one to five years, must be gone through, and a certain amount of proficiency shown, before such tradesmen as plumbers, masons, carpenters

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