

To our Readers.

To those of our readers who have expressed their appreciation of the NURSING RECORD as a means of furthering professional aims, and of its efforts to inculcate in nurses a true sense of their professional responsibility, we would ask a *quid pro quo*. Many readers, no doubt, quite recognize the arduous labours of the editor of a weekly paper—labours in which they are unable, however willing, to take a part—but they can help the good work all the same by making the NURSING RECORD known to their fellow nurses and friends, and thus bringing before the public, in ever wider and wider circles, those objects for the furtherance of which the RECORD exists.

Comments and Replies.

Miss A. G., Bristol.—You will get all the information you require by application to the Secretary, Metropolitan Asylums Board Offices, Norfolk House, Norfolk Street, Strand, W.C.

Nurse E. C. Smith, Bath.—Write to the Matron, County Hospital, Lincoln. She will give you the address.

Nurse G., R.B.N.A.—There is no smoke without fire. You cannot shuffle off your professional responsibility. Whilst you are what you call "lying low" and exercising a masterly inactivity, your professional privileges are being taken from you by those who are in competition with the trained nurse. This selfish policy will avail you nothing when, by the lack of principle, you find yourselves blamed for the moral delinquencies of ill-trained irresponsible persons posing as nurses.

Sister Amy, London.—Obtain a copy of the Charter and present Bye-Laws from 17, Old Cavendish Street, and compare them with the new code. The conduct of thrusting through the new Bye-Laws was illegal, as the present Bye-Laws were ignored. It is a pity you were not present on the 17th, as, unless present, no one can realize the conduct exhibited by the officials. All letters addressed to the Members of the Corporation were suppressed, *after having been opened!* It is presumable, therefore, that they were letters of protest.

Mrs. G., Richmond.—Asses' milk can be obtained from Welford & Sons (Dairy Co.), Elgin Avenue, Maida Vale, London, W. Two goats can easily be kept if you have a paddock.

Monthly Nurse, Liverpool.—If all pulsation of the cord has ceased it is quite safe to sever it without placing a ligature on the maternal side. The reason for using a pair of blunt scissors is to bruise the ends of the vessels, and so lessen the risk of hæmorrhage from the cord on the part of the infant. It is a well-known fact that clean cuts bleed more than jagged ones, the reason being that the bruised inner coats of the arteries retract within the ends of the wounded vessels; the lumen of the vessels is thus decreased, and the blood coagulates more readily than in the case of a clean cut. It is usual, and necessary, to place a second ligature upon the cord after the bath of the infant, as the cord frequently shrinks during this process, and the original ligature consequently becomes slack and ineffective.

Private Nurse, Manchester.—The qualification of nurses who wish to join the Registered Nurses' Society, is a three years' certificate from a good training school, and, if possible, practical experience of not less than six months in a fever hospital—special gynecological experience and massage are also invaluable to those who wish to succeed in private nursing—so that a fee of from two to three guineas a week is by no means excessive for such skilled workers.

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