

Sisters show wisdom; if the new school is to be arranged, it should be commenced in the spring when the new hospital is opened. A Private Nursing Staff will also be organized in connection with the new school.

Is it too much to hope that it may be organized on co-operative lines? It is really too late in the day to add another private nursing institution to the already too numerous societies in London, on any other basis than that of self help. No hospital or institution should be instituted on the old "sweating" system, which pays the trained nurse a small part of her earnings, and retains the larger proportion for the general use of the hospital.

We are glad to find that Matrons and nurses, who hold a three years' certificate of training in a hospital containing 100 beds and upwards, are beginning to realise the value of placing their names in *The Nursing Directory*, published under the authority of the Matrons' Council. The Matrons' Council, some time ago, passed a Resolution asking the Royal British Nurses' Association to institute such a Directory, but after the usual shilly-shally, the medical members refused this request, and thus took no steps to counteract the disastrous effect upon the profession, which was inevitable by the publication by Sir Henry Burdett (with the aid of a Committee whose names have been kept carefully private) of a so-called official Nursing Directory in which the names of women who are not trained nurses are to be found. Pupils, probationers, asylum attendants, ship stewardesses, housekeepers, and others are placed in Sir Henry Burdett's Directory, in which also are to be found numbers of names of trained nurses taken wholesale from the Register of the Royal British Nurses' Association, and mixed up in a general hotch-potch without their consent. It is to be hoped that trained nurses will in time realise the injury to their profession such a Directory must cause. The Matrons' Council is performing its duty both to the nurses and the public, by the compilation of the list of trained and certificated nurses, in the columns of which should be found the names and qualifications of every trained nurse who values the honour of her profession.

We are glad to observe that the demoralising advertisement in the *Nurses' Journal* to which we drew attention in a recent issue, has been deleted this month from the advertisement pages of the "official organ" of the Royal British Nurses' Association. To those who are unaware of the composition of the Editorial Committee of this publication, the admission of an advertisement, month after month, stating "we think it only fair

that they (nurses) should make a profit out of the dressings they obtain for their patients," is incredible. We can only hope that Dr. Bezly Thorne and Drs. Wethered and Fardon, of Middlesex Hospital, who govern the *Nurses' Journal*, will in the future not outrage the susceptibilities of honourable members of the nursing profession, by admitting advertisements to its columns which must inevitably depreciate trained nurses in the eyes of their patients, and which is all the more grossly unfair because self-respecting nurses have, under the bye-laws drafted by these gentlemen, been deprived of all personal independence and power of protest in their own professional Association.

A WOMAN, named Jane White of sixty-five years of age, "described as a nurse," and living at 322, Kingsland Road, was charged with causing the death of a woman by performing an illegal operation. It would appear that the accused woman is neither a nurse nor a midwife, but as it suits the purpose of unprincipled persons to describe themselves as nurses, no doubt they will continue this custom, so long as the law permits them to do so with impunity.

Two of the Sisters at the Cardiff Infirmary have resigned, one because she has obtained another appointment, and another because she "thought her services had not been properly appreciated." The House Committee expressed the hope that this Sister would reconsider her resignation, and consent to remain. We cannot but think that it is always ill advised to request an official to withdraw a resignation. By all means let Sisters be given their proper position in the wards. Discipline in any institution must be lax where the authority of the Sisters is not upheld, but, in our opinion, it is always wise to accept resignations when tendered.

A WELL-QUALIFIED nurse, who has recently been giving a course of lectures on elementary nursing in a provincial town, which have been well-attended, was puzzled on two nights during the course to account for a much diminished audience, and questioned the door-keeper as to the reason. "Well, you see, Miss," said she, "there's niggers in the Town 'All." "What," inquires the lecturer, "is a poor nurse to do in face of such a counter attraction?"

THE same lecturer reports that one of her pupils wrote in an examination paper, "The human brain is chiefly composed of lean beef." This reminds us (Nurses please note!) that it is not easy to write examination papers. We remember in this connection an answer given, some years ago, to a question in a history paper, set in the Cambridge Local Examinations, with regard to

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