

THE discussion on the Midwives' Bill in the Standing Committee on Law of the House of Commons is interesting reading. Nurses will do well to note the suggestion made by Mr. T. P. O'Connor, which, however, was not carried, that the word "midwives" be omitted from the Bill, and the words "midwifery nurses" inserted. We have always held that the proper position for a woman, other than a medical practitioner, who practises midwifery, is that of a midwifery nurse; but we, and the whole nursing profession, must strongly object to women with three months' special training being legally accorded the title of nurse. It takes more than three months' training to educate a nurse, and such a perversion of the term would be most unjust to properly qualified nurses. When midwives are required to hold a certificate of three years' general training in addition to possessing a midwifery qualification, then they may justly be called "midwifery nurses," but not before.

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COLONEL MILWARD (Warwickshire) aptly drew attention to the position of monthly nurses, who, he said, would be disqualified from attending lying-in cases if it became an offence that anyone who was not registered attended on women in childbirth. This point was brought forward in the NURSING RECORD last week, and the amendment of the British Medical Association that "no woman," as distinct from "any midwife," shall be entitled to recover in any Court any charge for any attendance on or service to a lying-in woman unless she is certificated under the Act, must not be forgotten by private nurses, who are closely affected by it.

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WE also observe with pleasure that Colonel Milward thought it undesirable that the Bill should "bristle with penalties" all through. We have from time to time directed attention to this feature of the Bill, and we can only hope that midwives will realize the penalties under which they will work if it becomes law.

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MR. ATHERLEY JONES stated that letters which he had received made it plain to him that the idea of the medical men was to impose as many restrictions and difficulties in the way of rules as they could, with the object of making the use of midwives impossible. He disapproved of the framing of the rules governing the practice of midwives being controlled by the general medical practitioners of the country. No such provision was to be found in Continental countries.

WE are glad that an amendment, giving the local authority power to frame a sliding scale of charges to be made by midwives, was rejected. We consider it an unsound financial proposition, and an interference with the liberty of the subject.

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AT the recent examination of the London Sanitary Institute for Sanitary Inspectors, 34 candidates presented themselves: 19 were successful, and we are pleased to note that three of these are ladies, one of whom—Miss Kathleen Scott-O'Connor—being a "Queen's Nurse." We would draw attention to the fact that nurses are eligible to sit for these examinations.

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Miss Helen C. Norman, Lady Superintendent of the Army Nursing Service, at Netley, calls the attention of the public to the fact that circulars purporting to be signed by her have been circulated asking for money for the invalid soldiers in the hospital there. She wishes it known that she has had nothing to do with any such documents, nor has she ever signed them.

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THE nurses' dance, given in the City Chambers at Glasgow, was, we hear, greatly enjoyed by all present—the Scotch are indefatigable dancers. It is a pity, however, that skits should appear in the local press which might convey to the public mind that the dance was not conducted with decorum—for instance, leaning over a balcony the backs of an aproned nurse and a stout young man are depicted, the waist of the former clasped by the arm of the latter. Although when one considers the matter, if permissible to clasp the female form divine in the dance from left to right, why not from right to left on the balcony? Is it the solitude *à deux* which constitutes the crime? Mrs. Grundy, please reply.

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THE garb of a nurse is apt to inspire confidence, as was proved in the case of a woman—a hardened old convict—dealt with at the Rochester City Quarter Sessions on Monday. The prisoner, who gave the name of Major, had succeeded, dressed as a probationary nurse, in deceiving several tradespeople into a belief that she represented the local hospital, and obtained a quantity of goods before her arrest. She was sentenced to three years' penal servitude. The police said she had been in gaol the greater part of her life.

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AT the Annual Meeting of the Sydney Hospital, N.S.W., Miss Rose Creal, who succeeded Miss

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