

of this day, for there is no doubt that much can be done by forethought, and many nurses will most keenly appreciate such consideration on the part of their superiors. Nurses who would willingly give up their church going if necessity required it may be excused from thinking it somewhat hard if they are prevented from attending the services they love merely from the want of a little forethought and organization, or from a disinclination on the part of those in authority to make matters easy for them. There is another side to the matter, from the nurse's point of view, and that is that while none professing Christianity should lightly—surely none would lightly—stay away from church on this day, yet if the welfare of their patients demands it there is no question that personal considerations should come second. After all, we shall have missed the lesson of Lent, and the message of the Cross, if we have not learnt, however imperfectly, that it is a lesson of self-sacrifice, and if we are required to put our principles into practice at Easter, it by no means follows that we shall miss the joy that Easter brings. Surely we may expect to find its blessings and its happiness in the path of duty.

Again, though there are, we believe, few nurses who would not cheerfully give up most privileges if the welfare of their patients demands it, there are undoubtedly some who do not realise their obligations to other nurses in the same light, who do not see why *they* should not get off duty, even out of their turn, when, if this were allowed, it would mean that their colleagues, equally appreciative of their Church privileges, but more unselfish, would have to stay on duty. We speak what we know, and it has more than once been a matter of surprise and wonder to us to see a nurse, of high aspirations, ill-tempered and aggrieved because arrangements have not been made, at some one else's expense, that she should have everything she wants. This is not right, and those in authority will always do well to remember that it behoves them to safeguard the interests of the more unselfish who are willing to give up the time off duty legitimately their own, because "Nurse _____ will be so cross if she does not get off."

To one and all of our readers, those who are able to attend the Easter services, and those whom duty keeps away from them, we most heartily wish "A Happy Easter."

Annotations.

THE ONLY LOGICAL CONCLUSION.

A meeting of the medical and lay constituents of the boroughs and divisions of South-East London and adjacent parts of Kent and Surrey, to consider and adopt measures to resist the registration of midwives, and particularly the Bill now before Parliament, was last week held at the Cannon Street Hotel. Mr. George Brown, Direct Representative for England on the General Medical Council, occupied the chair. With the objection of these gentlemen to the licensing under Government of women who have only three months' training, we have every sympathy, with the arguments brought forward, in all sincerity no doubt, at the meeting under discussion, no fault can be found. These gentlemen take up an impregnable position when they desire to protect the public from women whose training is unsatisfactory and inadequate for the responsible duties demanded of them. But having gone so far, it is to be regretted that they do not follow out the question to its logical conclusion and support the registration of fully qualified obstetric nurses working under medical supervision and control. There is no doubt that the midwifery nurse meets a public want, and that she must be legislated for on the best lines. It therefore behoves the medical profession to educate the public on the subject, and to show that as no medical specialist is considered qualified, or indeed permitted to practise unless he has a basis of general education, so no woman should practise midwifery unless she is either a qualified medical practitioner, or a trained and registered nurse working under medical supervision. It is on this most important point that the medical profession appear to us to have fallen short of their duty. They object to the three months' midwife, but they do not insist upon or urge the registration of fully-qualified nurses, and they therefore lay themselves open, in many cases wrongly, to the imputation of interested motives in their opposition to the Midwives' Bill. It must not be forgotten that the Registration of Nurses has met with the keenest opposition from members of the medical profession. That medical members of the Royal British Nurses' Association, founded by nurses to obtain Registration for the protection of the public, have betrayed this principle—is now a matter of history. That the Nurses' Association is now controlled by a clique of

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