

appears to us to be a most dangerous precedent, and in the case, for instance, of the Nursing profession, it is one which we should most strenuously resist. We cannot, indeed, understand the logic which has placed representatives of Nursing bodies upon the Midwives' Board. It simply means that representatives of nurses—who are expected to work under the supervision of medical men—are considered by Parliament to be entitled to control midwives, who are declared by the Bill to be independent practitioners of perhaps the most important branch of Medicine; whilst midwives who are accorded this status and position are considered to be unfit to manage their own affairs.

Annotations.

"THE BRITISH JOURNAL OF NURSING." AMERICAN OPINION.

"Mention is made in another column of the re-organisation, with change of name," says the *American Journal of Nursing* for June, "of the *Nursing Record* of London, which is to appear July 1st under the title of the BRITISH JOURNAL OF NURSING. Under this name the journal will more widely represent the interests of British nurses, and, joining hands with the *American Journal of Nursing*, the two magazines will stand together for the principles for which the English-speaking nurses of the world are striving to-day—namely, greater uniformity of standards for admission to training-schools, more thorough and advanced preliminary instruction, State registration, and a recognised professional status for nurses.

"To the *Nursing Record* the profession owes much of the inspiration that has led to its present degree of development and progress, and to the BRITISH JOURNAL OF NURSING we may look for all advance movements to be heralded, every abuse denounced, and credit awarded where credit is due."

It is our duty to say that when we read this generous and inspiring paragraph we felt well repaid for over nine years' arduous work as Editor of the *Nursing Record*—standing quite alone as it did for much of that time, for the great principles of union, legal status and self-government for nurses. But now that British and American nurses are agreed on the principles upon which an efficient profession of

nursing must be founded, even if details have yet to be considered, and have each an organ in the Press, pledged to forward their interests, it cannot be long before English-speaking nurses all over the world, are united into a forceful self-governing sisterhood—respected because they are self-respecting.

QUEEN ALEXANDRA'S IMPERIAL MILITARY NURSING SERVICE.

A special Army Order issued by the War Office on June 26th contains the following instructions relating to the formation of the Queen Alexandra's Imperial Military Nursing Service:—

"All present members of the Army Nursing Service and members of the Army Nursing Reserve who have been in military employment during the war in South Africa shall be eligible for appointment in the Queen Alexandra's Imperial Military Nursing Service if recommended by the nursing board. Should any question arise as to their *status* in the Queen Alexandra's Imperial Military Nursing Service, the nursing board shall report thereon to the advisory board, and the recommendation of the advisory board shall be submitted to the Commander-in-Chief, whose decision shall be final.

"Any present member of the late Army Nursing Service who is not retained in the Queen Alexandra's Imperial Nursing Service may be recommended for a gratuity of one month's pay for each year of service if she is not entitled to a pension; and any nurse accepted by the nursing board as a member of the Queen Alexandra's Imperial Military Nursing Service who may decline to accept the new terms of pay, pension, &c., shall be allowed to serve upon the terms of her present engagement."

Thus the Army Nursing Reserve governed by an irresponsible committee outside the War Office ceases to exist, and the Reserve becomes, as it should be, part of our Imperial Nursing Service, controlled by a Government Department responsible to the nation which maintains it, for its efficiency. We heartily congratulate the Secretary of State for War upon his courage and commonsense in rescuing this branch of the Army Nursing Service from chaotic disorganisation, and placing it on a sound professional basis.

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