

very well in the old days without all this fuss about hygiene. But formerly life was beautifully simple, less severe in all ways than it is now, so that average health was often maintained in spite of unhygienic surroundings. Nowadays the necessity for living in crowded towns, and the incessant strain of competition, call for greater care of our children if the race is not to deteriorate—and it certainly shows unmistakable signs of deterioration.

Even under the best conditions life on this earth is sufficiently full of suffering, but it is constantly borne in upon me with increasing force that multitudes go through manifold unnecessary suffering, and the progress of the world is hindered, wholly because the women who make and rear the succeeding generation are in deepest ignorance of the laws concerning the gaining and keeping of a sound mind in a sound body. And no one has yet founded a system whereby they may gain enlightenment.—I am, Dear Madam, Yours faithfully,

MÉNA BELLBY.

WOMEN'S EDUCATION.

To the Editor of the "British Journal of Nursing."

DEAR MADAM,—I notice that in announcing the liberal endowment of a scheme of technical education by Messrs. Wernher, Beit and Co., you point out the difficulty encountered by women in obtaining adequate education to equip them for earning their own living. Of course, in the first place it is considered unnecessary as a rule to spend more than a meagre sum on the education of girls. They must make their way in the world, preferably by means of the marriage market, if not somehow. It is all—I was going to say—delightfully vague, but the question has too tragic a side for the qualifying word to be the correct one.

Secondly, what ground is there for hope that the endowment of educational schemes for women in London will receive consideration? The authority for technical education in London is the County Council, and from its Board women have deliberately, and of set purpose, been excluded. Therefore, how can we expect that women's educational interests will be considered by a Board so constituted? The first thing before we can hope to have a fair share of educational endowment is to get representation on educational boards.

A MERE WOMAN.

A WARNING.

To the Editor of the "British Journal of Nursing."

DEAR MADAM,—May I draw your readers' attention to the following statement made by the *South African Review*, Capetown:—"Hundreds of able-bodied young persons are walking the streets of Capetown, Kimberley, and Johannesburg who are unable to obtain employment; yet the Home Government and a portion of the Press are advising people to come out here to swell the ranks of the already large number of unemployed. The reason people are advised to come is well known out here. The idea is to get cheaper labour for all, which will mean starvation to all, as wages at the present time are bad enough."

Surely it is too bad of "Society" to urge poor girls to emigrate to South Africa under present conditions.

Yours truly,

A COLONIAL SISTER.

Comments and Replies.

Certificated Staff Nurse.—It is to be regretted that your Matron is not in sympathy with the formation of a Nurses' League of the School in which you were trained, as these Leagues should be, and are, means for widening the sympathies of trained nurses both from an educational and social point of view. But we can hardly advise you to start the League in the hospital without your Matron's help, although in so doing you would be following the example of the American Alumnae Associations. If you can get a dozen nurses certificated in the School, holding responsible positions outside, who are in sympathy with the formation of a League, let them communicate with your Matron; it is improbable that she will stand aside and oppose the wishes of those trained in the hospital, even if she "has no patience with the present unrest in the nursing world." The unrest exists, and cannot be extinguished by a *non possumus* attitude. We all know what happens when the safety valve is screwed down too tight.

Private Nurse, West End.—Apply to Mrs. Palmer, 56, Westminster Mansions, Great Smith Street, Westminster; she teaches massage admirably. Just at present the Home is very full. Apply Matron, 12, Sussex Square, Brighton.

Mrs. C. S., Birmingham.—It is, as you say, very strange that everything, politics included, is so "stuck in the mud" in Birmingham. It proves that, with the majority, *personal* influence is of so much more force than principle. In the near future circumstances will compel us to "bunch" in all directions, nursing included.

Home Hospital Matron, London.—Try the Hospitals and General Contracts Company, 33, Mortimer Street; they will send you estimates. Best pay the establishment a visit. You are sure of good value for your money.

Matron, East End.—Obtain the *Nursing Directory*, price 5s., from the office of this Journal, 11, Adam Street, Strand. All the information you require is in it.

Dr. A. G.—We agree with your expression of opinion on the whole, but consider if a trained nurse is really efficient, £2 2s. a week is little enough for her skilled services. All wages have risen of late years—why should nurses' salaries not be included in this economic advance? Women's work has too long been held cheap; the nation demands their skilled work—it must pay for it.

Notices.

STATE REGISTRATION OF NURSES.

The annual report of the Society for the State Registration of Trained Nurses is now published, and can be obtained on application to the Hon. Secretary, 20, Upper Wimpole Street, price 1½d., post free, or 7d. for six copies. All nurses should obtain a copy of this report, and acquaint themselves with the history and progress of the Registration movement. Application forms for membership of the Society can be obtained from the same address.

OUR PRIZE PUZZLE.

Rules for competing for the Pictorial Puzzle Prize will be found on Advertisement page VIII.

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