

It will not do to rely on this, however, we must strain every nerve to convince the Board of Trade that it is prejudicial to all the interests concerned that it should grant its licence to the proposed Society.

I am, dear Madam,

Yours faithfully,

A MEMBER OF THE SOCIETY FOR  
STATE REGISTRATION.

#### THE GRIEVANCES OF ASSISTANT MATRONS.

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

DEAR MADAM,—I sympathise with Miss Mollett's Assistant Matron. It is hard to feel keenly interested in things and to take a share in none of them.

Only I should like to point out two things:—(1) "It is good that a man (and a woman also) should bear the yoke in his youth." (2) That Assistant Matrons are Matrons in embryo, few contemplate spending their days as Assistants, they regard their present position, with its advantages and drawbacks, as a stepping-stone to higher things. When that day arrives, how sympathetic will that Matron be who has felt the shoe pinch during her term of office in a subordinate position. What a good time her own Assistant Matron will have. At least, so let us hope.

Yours faithfully,

LOOKER ON.

#### DISTRICT NURSES FOR POOR LAW CASES.

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

DEAR MADAM,—I observe with much interest, in your issue of last week, that in connection with the Preston Royal Infirmary it is proposed to employ district nurses to attend on the out-patients of that institution. This is a boon which I feel sure many patients will greatly appreciate. Patients of another class for which I should greatly like to see district nurses employed are the Poor Law ones. Why should not Boards of Guardians employ a nurse to look after their outdoor sick as systematically as they employ a medical officer? The anxiety of this officer as to the cases in his charge would be much relieved if he were sure that his orders would be carried out by a skilled nurse, and the benefit of his advice to the patient would be greatly enhanced for the same reason. Added to which, the care which could be given by such a nurse to many chronic cases would enable them to spend their last days amongst their own people, and save the ratepayers the expense of maintaining them in that terror of the aged respectable poor—"the House." Some Boards of Guardians do, of course, subscribe to existing nursing associations, but nothing on any large scale has been done in this way. I should like to see a Queen's Nurse, partially or wholly employed as the necessity of the case requires, in every parish in the kingdom. I may be prejudiced, but I can conceive no greater comfort to the indigent and aged sick than the frequent visits and ministrations of a sympathetic and skilful nurse. This seems self-evident, and from personal knowledge of the poor I have reason to believe my view to be borne out by facts. I hope the day will come when a trained nurse will be accessible for every sick person, not only where private charity provides her.

I am, dear Madam,

Yours faithfully,

DISTRICT NURSE.

### Comments and Replies.

*Scotia.*—We are not acquainted with any Homes of Rest for Nurses in Holland or the North of France which receive foreign nurses. You could live comfortably and moderately at the Pensions on the list of International Pensions published in the *Swiss and Nice Times*. The headquarters of this journal are at 12, Rue du Mont Blanc, Geneva, but in the winter we believe it is published at Nice. We should advise you to write for a copy, addressing the letter to the Manager, *Swiss and Nice Times*, Nice, France. The cost is 20 centimes (about 2d.).

*F. M. L. R.*—We are sorry we know of no one in the place you mention likely to meet your requirements. It might be a good plan for the nurse to travel out with one of Dr. Lunn's parties and stay for awhile in the hotel or pension arranged for by him, and then decide when there whether those quarters or others would suit her best as a permanency. Dr. Lunn's address is 5, Endsleigh Gardens, N.W.

*Private Nurse.*—You should study the admirable chapter on Contagion and Disinfection in the book entitled "Practical Nursing," by Miss Isla Stewart and Dr. Herbert Cuff, and published by William Blackwood and Sons. In relation to the disinfectant of a patient's room these authorities lay down:—"After a patient has finally left his apartment, it, and all it contains, should be disinfected as thoroughly as possible before it is allowed to be used again. Exactly the same precautions should be taken with the rooms of those who have been in attendance on him. Everything that can be spared should be burnt, since that absolutely destroys all risk. This should invariably be done in the case of the patient's brush and comb, nail-brush, tooth-brush, and sponge, and the broom which has been used to sweep the floor. All the bedding, and any carpets or blinds there may be in the room should be sent to a disinfecting station to be treated with steam. If that is not possible, they must be disinfected at home with formalin, and afterwards exposed for some days to the action of sunlight and fresh air, both of which help to destroy the vitality of germs. All small articles—such as knives, spoons, and forks—should be boiled, and all crockery ware thoroughly cleansed with boiling water and immersed for some hours in 1 in 20 carbolic acid."

### Notices.

#### THE SOCIETY FOR STATE REGISTRATION OF TRAINED NURSES.

All those desirous of helping on the important movement of this Society to obtain a Bill providing for the Legal Registration of Trained Nurses will find an application form on page vi., or can obtain all information concerning the Society and its work from the Secretary, 431, Oxford Street, London, W.

Those nurses who are working on behalf of the above Society, and are endeavouring to spread knowledge as to its aims, may be glad to know that they can now obtain a Memorandum, giving briefly the reasons why Registration is necessary, from the Hon. Secretary, 431, Oxford Street, London, W. Price 6d. for 20 copies.

#### OUR PRIZE PUZZLE.

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

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