

# THE BRITISH JOURNAL OF NURSING

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**THE NURSING RECORD**  
EDITED BY MRS BEDFORD FENWICK

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## Editorial.

11 3 2311W 8 220W 7 NOTABLE EVENT.

The Statutory Meeting of the Nursing Press, Ltd., which is being held as we go to press, marks, in our opinion, an important development in the progress of nursing affairs in this country. For it represents the fact that, for the first time, nurses in the United Kingdom have co-operated together to secure as their own property a professional organ. This is not the place to enter into details, but we are pleased to announce that the Nursing Press, Ltd., formed by trained nurses, have become the proprietors of the BRITISH JOURNAL OF NURSING—ever the ideal and ultimate aim of the late proprietor of the paper when the time was ripe for such a step to be taken.

In several European countries—Germany, Holland and Denmark—nurses own their own papers; in Canada and Australasia, nurses possess flourishing journals, and in the United States of America the *American Journal of Nursing*, founded by the self-sacrificing energy of a few far-seeing Matrons, is entirely owned and controlled by nurses. Its history is an inspiring one; brilliantly edited, most loyally supported; it is a growing power for good from one end of the United States to the other, wherever the care of the sick, and the welfare of the profession of nursing are in question.

The policy of the British and American Journals of Nursing has always been identical—financed, owned, and worked by nurses they have ever voiced nursing opinion and the nurses' ideals, and commercialism has with both been a secondary consideration. It is indisputable that the British Journal has done its work, and there now

exist all over the world powerful associations of nurses who realise their professional responsibilities. When the campaign for the organisation of nursing began in this country, nearly twenty years ago, with the foundation of the British Nurses' Association nurses were subjected week after week to the most bitter attacks in the lay-nursing press, and had no paper of their own in which to repudiate falsehood or propagate their views.

The urgent need for such a journal was most apparent, and when the opportunity came in 1903 we purchased the *Nursing Record*, now the BRITISH JOURNAL OF NURSING, so that the aspirations of the profession of Nursing, its suggestions for reform and, finally, for legislation should be fairly and fully expressed. The history of the great campaign for Registration is to be found in the thirty-six volumes of this journal. Suffice it to say, we have won.

The BRITISH JOURNAL OF NURSING co-operates with the International Press, and with the *American Journal of Nursing* and the German *Unterm Lazaruskreuz*, is the official organ of the International Council of Nurses, thus being in touch with its component 10,000 nurses in various parts of the world. It is also the official organ of the Matrons' Council of Great Britain and Ireland—which numbers upwards of 160 Matrons working together for the good of the community, as well as of their profession—of the Society for the State Registration of Trained Nurses—numbering nearly 2,000 members, whose aim is sound education, just conditions of work, central control, and a high standard of professional efficiency and conduct—and of the Registered Nurses' Society—a very successful body of private nurses who claim justly that the labourer is worthy of his hire, and

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