

nurses in New Zealand. I have relations in that Colony, and was intending shortly to go out there, and of course meant to support myself by the exercise of my profession. I must say I think it is very hard that I cannot do so. I have only a two years' certificate, but I have had much experience since obtaining it, and have nursed for many of the best London surgeons, from whom I have first-class testimonials, and it seems most unfair for a small Colony like New Zealand to exclude, except as quacks, nurses from Great Britain, where the training is second to none. I cannot help thinking that she is injuring herself by doing so, for, of course, we must be more up-to-date here, as regards the latest methods, than they are at the Antipodes. It is most inconvenient to me, though I am glad I have learnt what nursing conditions are in New Zealand before starting, and I shall now have to reconsider my plans, for I cannot afford to throw away the work of years which I should do if I went to live in a country where I should be beyond the nursing pale.

Yours faithfully,

DISAPPOINTED.

[We are sorry for our correspondent's disappointment, but it is inevitable that individuals should suffer until we have State Registration of Nurses in this country, and so are able to establish a system of reciprocity with New Zealand, for if the training and credentials of our nurses had been investigated and registered under State authority, there is no doubt that New Zealand would accept our registered nurses. As, however, we are at present without either an officially recognised standard of training for nurses, or a method of testing their knowledge when trained, our Colonies can only lay down one rule for all immigrants from Great Britain, until we guarantee the efficiency of our own nurses. The remedy is to get our own Registration Bill through as speedily as possible. The self-satisfaction which is plainly visible in our correspondent's letter is responsible for much of the inertia which results in our being left behind by our more enterprising Colonies.—Ed.]

THE CHARACTER OF THE MIDWIFE.

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

DEAR MADAM,—I was very pleased to see your article on the "Character of the Midwife" last week. We want high ideals upheld, for, as a rule, neither individuals nor classes of workers rise above the level expected of them, and it is in the highest degree important that midwives should be, as the majority of modern ones are, high principled, honourable, conscientious women. If the opinion gains ground that a midwife may get sodden with drink between her cases, all I can say is Heaven help the poor. Would well-to-do men employ doctors who drink to attend their own wives? If so, more shame to them; if not, why should they think drinking midwives good enough for the poor?

Faithfully yours,

A TETOTAL MIDWIFE.

Comments and Replies.

Enquirer.—You will find all information relating to the Woman's Suffrage question in "Women and Progress," a weekly journal, price 1d., published at 18, Buckingham Street, Strand.

Maternity Nurse.—You mean, no doubt, the Swan Everlasting White Aprons, which, while resembling fine linen, are waterproof, and can be kept spotlessly white by simply sponging off any marks and stains. They are procurable from the Red Lion Manufacturing Company, Ltd., 71, High Holborn, W.C.

District Superintendent.—We quite agree that it is most important for district nurses to be selected from a high type of workers. It greatly depends upon the view they have of their responsibilities how much work they find to do. They may consider they have done all that is required of them when they have performed their actual nursing duties, or may take a much wider view of their duty.

In Doubt.—You can never be promoted to the post of Charge Nurse in one of the hospitals of the Metropolitan Asylums Board unless you have had general training. Nurses trained in these hospitals do not rise beyond the position of first assistant.

Notices.

THE CENTRAL MIDWIVES' BOARD.

Owing to pressure upon our space we have been compelled to hold over our report of the proceedings at the meeting of the Central Midwives' Board, on Thursday, March 21st. It will appear in our next issue.

THE SOCIETY FOR THE 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 can obtain all information concerning the Society and its work from the Hon. 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.

CONTRIBUTIONS.

The Editor will at all times be pleased to consider articles of a suitable nature for insertion in this Journal—those on practical nursing are specially invited. The Editor will also be pleased to receive paragraphs, such as items of nursing news, results of nurses' examinations, new appointments, reports of hospital functions, also letters on questions of interest to nurses, and newspapers marked with reports of matters of professional interest.

Such communications must be duly authenticated with name and address, not necessarily for publication, but as evidence of good faith, and should be addressed to the Editor, 20, Upper Wimpole Street, London, W.

OUR PRIZE PUZZLE.

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

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