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EDITORIAL.

REGISTRATION.

HE scheme of Registration issued by the British Nurses' Association has, as might have been expected, aroused the keenest interest in Medical and Nursing circles throughout the Kingdom. We have received a very large number of communications upon the subject, expressing unqualified approval of the proposed plan, or inquiries as to details, and their probable effect The few who have upon Nurses individually. written complainingly we would urge to remember that the officials of the Association in all probability are quite overpowered with the press of this new and great business, so that there can be no cause for surprise if letters are not answered immediately, or if the replies are somewhat brief. We learn, indeed, that the correspondence at present is enormous. Registration has been in the air for nearly sixteen years, and now that it is an accomplished fact it is not to be wondered at that thousands of the best class of Nurses are eagerly crowding forward to obtain its benefits. It affords us the greatest pleasure to feel that we alive to the same fact. When there are sufficient

can now assist in this work-which we have, from the very birth of this journal, staunchly advocated and supported-by answering some inquiries which have been made by our correspondents, 73 74 from information which we have received officially from the Association.

We are asked, "Is the statement true that the Registration Board is simply the Executive Committee of the British Nurses' Association ?" It is distinctly false, as all the other statements on the subject emanating from the same quarter have been. We have been told the names of a number of eminent Physicians and Surgeons and Hospital Matrons who are acting upon the Board, who are not members of the Executive Committee of the Association, and never have been. When it suits the Registration Board to publish a list of its members, it will doubtless do so. It is quite aware of its strength and of the certainty of its success in dealing with Registration, and so will probably continue to treat with the contempt they merit attacks from ignorant and interested persons.

"Are other Nurses registering themselves?" a frequent question. We are informed that is a frequent question. " in two days last week more than three hundred applications for Registration were received, and ever since subscriptions and applications have been literally pouring in by every post." No one need be surprised at this. Nurses know the necessity for the system, and for the protection which it will afford them against the unfair competition of "semi-trained or altogether ignorant women" by giving the public for the first time the means of distinguishing between a Trained Nurse and a Nursing quack. The thousands of educated women who have joined the B.N.A., and by their united force have brought Registration to pass, are well aware that, now the system has been commenced, the battle has, to all intents and purposes, been won. Their enemies who are raging so furiously together are probably keenly



