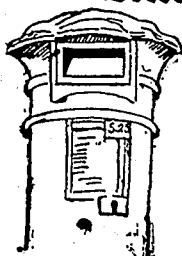


Letters to the Editor.



Whilst cordially inviting communications upon all subjects for these columns, we wish it to be distinctly understood that we do not in any way hold ourselves responsible for the opinions expressed by our correspondents.

NURSES OF THE THISTLE.

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

DEAR MADAM,—Your correspondent of last week, in writing of the good effect of the Central Midwives' Board examinations, brings forward a strong argument in favour of a "General Council for the Registration of Nurses in the United Kingdom"—i.e., a single portal for England, Scotland, and Ireland by State examination. The argument may help to convince those who are doubtful, and who hanker after a Scottish Bill without weighing the consequences.

The persistent misrepresentations in regard to the expenses of a journey to London, and board while there, upon which the friends of the Scottish Bill have relied for the furtherance of their cause, led me last week to address a letter to the press quoting the terms of the Act, pointing out that the journey to London is purely imaginary, and that there is as much likelihood that all the candidates in England and Ireland will be sent to Glasgow for examination as that Scottish candidates will be sent to London.

Last week the question of registration came up at a meeting of the Edinburgh Parish Council. The report in *The Scotsman* runs that "Mr. Brydon Hogg asked if such registration would not preclude Scottish nurses from obtaining posts in England on the same terms as they had had?" In reply, Miss Brand, who had attended the meeting of those favourable to the Scottish Bill, held in Glasgow, is reported to have said: "That point had been considered at the meeting, and it was decided (the italics are mine) that Scottish trained nurses should be suitable for work both in England and Ireland, and that English and Irish nurses should be equally suitable for work in Scotland."

This statement implies that the Scottish Bill Committee have undertaken the responsibility of deciding the whole question of registration, not only for Scotland, but also for England and Ireland.

Even Bruce, after Bannockburn, did not seek to rule England and Ireland—but Robert Bruce was wise as well as brave.

There is much indignation in Scotland at the attempt which has been made to lower the Scottish nursing profession. Nurses of the Thistle are determined that every effort will be made to resist any Act which would separate them from their sisters of the Rose and the Shamrock.

I am,

Yours faithfully,

The Valley,
Trinity, Brechin.

E. A. STEVENSON.

PROFESSIONAL EQUALITY REQUIRED.

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

DEAR MADAM,—I read Dr. Wallace Anderson's pithy letter with great pleasure in the *BRITISH JOURNAL OF NURSING*, and was much struck with one thing he says—that many nurses signed the petition under a misapprehension. This is quite true in my case.

Yours truly,

MISAPPREHENSION.

[We have had several letters to the same effect as "Misapprehension's." Scottish nurses would no doubt prefer to have a Branch Registration Council in Scotland, but we do not believe that when they understand the question they will be content to forego the Central Examination. They can hold their own with the best, and should insist on the opportunity of proving it. It is unfortunate that the Glasgow Registration Committee are so new to the consideration of many important questions in connection with legislation for nurses, that they know little of the work done by those who have for years demanded the organisation of nursing by the State, or of their reasons for forming conclusions.—Ed.]

Comments and Replies.

Salus Infirmorum.—(1) *La Garde-Malade Hospitalière* is published at 96, bis, Rue Laroche, Bordeaux. Annual subscription outside France, 2 francs 50 centimes. (2) You might write to the Lady Superintendent, King's Nursing Home, and to the Lady Superintendent, English Nurses' Home, Villa St. Joseph, Mount Orient, Biarritz.

Private Nurse.—You will find the Peri-Lusta Threads just what you want for your convalescent. They can be obtained through most fancy drapers and Berlin wool dealers, or direct from Peri-Lusta, 19, Ludgate Hill, E.C.

Hospital Sister, London.—We think you have mistaken the scope of the classes. Lady Esher lays stress on the fact that they are for instruction in "first aid" and not in "nursing." The Nursing Service of the Territorial Force is being practically organised by experienced Hospital Matrons, and the standard for enrolment is not less than three-years' training in a well-known hospital or infirmary.

Notices.

THE SOCIETY FOR THE STATE REGISTRATION OF TRAINED NURSES.

An application form for those who wish to become members of the Society for the State Registration of Trained Nurses will be found on page iii. of cover. It will soon be too late to help on the important work of this Society. No habitual reader of this journal can, we feel sure, be content to stand aside and let others found the future Profession of Nursing. Now is the time to help.

OUR PUZZLE COMPETITION.

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

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