

The Truth About State Registration in the United States of America.

LETTERS ADDRESSED TO MISS L. L. DOCK,
*Office of the Maryland State Board of Examiners
of Nurses, Baltimore.*

MY DEAR MISS DOCK,—Your letter is just at hand, and in reply I will say that so far is State Registration from being a failure in Maryland, that we consider it one of the very best steps that nurses have ever taken. Nearly every school for nurses in the State is coming up to better standards because of it, and what benefits the nurse in this way benefits the public.

As a result of State Registration, we have a Society of Superintendents of Nurses, which meets once a month, and a uniform course of study is being worked out; in fact, the course for the first year is now being followed fairly closely, with a probability of doing better as soon as it is possible to readjust the work.

The Board of Examiners sends each Superintendent of Nurses the average made by her own pupils (not the individual average) in each subject, and this enables the Superintendent to see in what lines her work is weak. The Board of Health is co-operating with us in appointing only Registered Nurses as School Nurses or for tubercular work, and the usual request for institutional work is for Registered Nurses.

We had more nurses come up for examination this fall than ever before at one time. I mention these things to show that the value of State Registration is recognised by the public as well as by the nurses.

Very truly yours,
MARY CARY PACKARD, R.N.,
President.

*State of West Virginia Board of Examiners for
Nurses.*

MY DEAR MISS DOCK,—Replying to yours of recent date regarding Registration in the United States, I would say that in so far as all indications point in our State, Registration is proving of decided benefit. We have had only two yearly examinations, but the last one was attended by a class of 42, an increase in number of 12 over the former year. And the papers were of much improved quality, showing that the Board's examination is having its effect upon the training of the nurses; also the training schools are showing evidence of an inclination to bring their work up to the standard.

I am,
Very respectfully yours,
Geo. Lounsbury, *Secretary.*

International News.

Miss L. L. Dock writes that an extraordinary and gratifying amount of attention is already being shown by the medical fraternity in Europe in the next International Meeting in Cologne in 1912, and it is probable that many of the most progressive will attend the Congress.

Appointments.

MATRONS.

Hartlepool Hospitals.—Miss Louisa Strickland has been appointed Matron. She was trained at University College Hospital, London. Miss Strickland has held the positions of Night Superintendent at the Samaritan Free Hospital, London, and Matron of the Victoria Infirmary, Northwich.

Knightswood Fever Hospital.—Miss Agnes Lindsay has been appointed Matron. She was trained at the Western Infirmary, Glasgow, where she subsequently held the position of Sister. She also gained experience in the nursing of infectious diseases at the Belvidere Hospital, Glasgow, where she held the position of Assistant Matron.

Combination Hospital, Annan.—Miss Margaret Hope Stewart has been appointed Matron. She was trained at the Cumberland Infirmary, Carlisle, and has held the positions of Charge Nurse at the Dorset County Hospital, Dorchester, Charge Nurse at the North-Eastern, Tottenham (M.A.B.), and Home Sister at the Children's Infirmary, Carshalton.

Crookston Home for Children, Cardonald, near Glasgow.—Miss Katherine K. Campbell has been appointed Matron. She was trained at the Western Infirmary, Glasgow, where she has held the position of Sister.

NIGHT SISTER.

Victoria Hospital, Hull.—Miss Florence Davis has been appointed Night Sister. She was trained at the Children's Hospital, Moseley, near Birmingham, and the Warneford General Hospital, Leamington. She has also had experience in the nursing of infectious diseases and in private nursing.

The Infirmary, Greenock.—Miss T. Wood has been appointed Night Sister. She was trained at the Western Infirmary, Glasgow.

QUEEN ALEXANDRA'S IMPERIAL MILITARY NURSING SERVICE.

THE NEW MATRON-IN-CHIEF.

In connection with the selection of Miss E. H. Becher, R.R.C. to succeed to the office of Matron-in-Chief at the War Office from 5th April next, we are able to give her professional career, which well qualifies her for the honourable and responsible position she will shortly assume. The Matron-in-Chief elect received her training at the London Hospital from 1892-1895, subsequently holding the position of Sister in male, medical, and surgical wards till December, 1899. She was sent from the London Hospital to South Africa as one of H.R.H. the Princess of Wales' (Queen Alexandra) Nurses on December 23rd, 1899, and served at Wynberg and Bloemfontein till June, 1900. She was then appointed Acting Superintendent of No. 19 General Hospital, Pretoria, until the hospital was closed in June, 1902, on the cessation of hostilities; was mentioned in despatches, and received the Order of the Royal Red Cross, and the South African medals.

Miss Becher returned to England in July, 1902, and was appointed a Principal Matron in Queen Alexandra's Imperial Military Nursing Service at

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