

E. M. BYLES (Lambeth).
 L. K. MASTERS (Leicester, North Evington).
 E. A. GITTINS (Leeds).
 J. E. NICHOLSON (Liverpool, Highfield).
 E. STEWART (City of London).
 R. TEMPLEMAN (Merthyr Tydfil).
 A. F. ROCKETT (Middlesbrough).
 E. R. GRAHAM (Mile End, Old Town).
 E. F. DWIGHT (Nottingham, Bagthorpe).
 F. A. FOYSTER (Portsmouth).
 L. M. HALL (Reading).
 I. H. COPELAND (Rochdale).
 E. M. BRADLEY (Salford, Manchester).
 L. BENTLEY (St. Pancras, South).
 A. C. LAWSON (Sheffield).
 A. A. GAHU (South Shields).
 J. JEFFERY (Stockport).
 A. E. BLACKWELL (Stoke-on-Trent).
 I. KEMP (Southwark).
 F. M. MIDDLETON (Wandsworth).
 L. S. CLARK (West Ham).
 A. SYERS (Wolverhampton).
 S. A. HANNAFORD (Poplar and Stepney Sick Asylum).
 E. M. SMITH (Central London Sick Asylum, Hendon).
 C. LEIGH (Central London Sick Asylum, Cleveland Street).
Matrons under the Metropolitan Asylums Board.
 E. M. BANN (Brook Hospital).
 F. E. M. DAY (Eastern Hospital).
 L. A. MORGAN (Northern Hospital).
 M. JONES (North-Eastern Hospital).
 M. M. LLOYD (North-Western Hospital).
 S. A. VILLIERS (Park Hospital).
 F. M. AMBLER JONES (South-Eastern Hospital).
 C. L. BURTON (South-Western Hospital).
 E. ROSS (Western Hospital).
 A. S. BRYSON (Gore Farm Hospital).
 H. WACHER (Joyce Green Hospital).

In connection with this matter, the Fever Nurses' Association held a meeting on Monday, Dr. Goodall, the President, presiding.

From the office of the Society for the State Registration of Trained Nurses, Mrs. Bedford Fenwick, the Hon. Secretary, has forwarded documents and information on the Registration question for the consideration of the Local Government Board, and has brought to the notice of the President the fact that all the influential National Associations of medical practitioners and trained nurses, which form the Central Registration Committee, have agreed to and are supporting the Bill now before the House of Commons.

The Bill provides that the General Council for the Registration of Nurses in the United Kingdom shall include three registered medical practitioners appointed by the Local Government Boards for England, Scotland, and Ireland respectively.

Sisters.*

By Miss A. BUTLER,

Matron of Sir Patrick Dun's Hospital, Dublin.

When I was told I was expected to read a paper this evening on the subject of Sisters, it was not made clear to me if I was to give a detailed account of Sisters' duties, or a description of Sisters I have known, or Sisters I would like to know. If, therefore, my short paper does not give what is expected or desired, I must ask you to forgive me.

I regret to say my personal experience of Sisters—with one or two exceptions—has been disappointing. Possibly this may have been due to some fault of mine, or I may have expected too much. I do not know, but the sad fact remains.

We all complain of the difficulty of getting good probationers for training, and it is without doubt a very great difficulty; but I cannot help feeling that if we were more fortunate in our choice of Sisters we would have much better results even from the very faulty material we have to work upon.

Only a few women who aspire to the position of Sister at all realise the enormous amount of responsibility such a position involves, not only with regard to the care of their patients and general arranging of their wards, but with regard to their influence over the nurses working under them. Undoubtedly the whole professional future of every nurse is more or less influenced for good or evil by the Sisters she works under. To the earnest worker, who finds herself in such a position of responsibility, the burden must at times seem almost too great; but it is the women who take up a Sister's work in this spirit, fully realising all it means, who are most likely to do it well. The duties of a Sister are of necessity so various that she needs quite a long list of qualifications to fit her for the post.

A thorough knowledge of nursing is only one of many qualifications needed, for, however good a nurse a woman may be herself, she may be utterly unfit to teach others or to govern large wards.

To make a successful head of a ward requires much the same qualities as are needed for the good head of any household. The same constant thought for others, method in arrangement of work, forethought to meet expected incidents, and cheerful readiness to bear the unexpected and make the best of things. Then there must be the ready tact and sweet temper

*A paper read at a meeting of the Irish Matrons' Association.

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