

soldier-nurses in distributing of food and drugs, and follow the doctor's visit. They are under the authority of the doctor in charge.

The provisional rules do not mention their rank, but in the matter of rations they are treated as non-commissioned officers.

They are included in the list of the staff for active service, but their duties are not defined. There is no Matron or Sister in charge.

As a patriot, the French nurse is well on her way to being worthy of her high calling. No one can cast a doubt upon her love of country, but her nursing qualities must be stimulated, so that love of humanity may be honoured with the same laurels as crown devotion to the fatherland.

The Truth About State Registration in the United States.

LETTERS TO MISS L. L. DOCK.
NEBRASKA.

State Board of Registration of Nurses, Omaha,
Nebraska.

MY DEAR MISS DOCK,

The State of Nebraska has only just begun to register its nurses, but the registration law has already indirectly caused the closing of a number of small private hospitals maintaining training schools; and other hospitals having courses of six months' training have lengthened them to one year, and promised to extend the course to two years' in another year. Many graduates from these short courses are applying to the general hospitals for more training.

Doctors having their own private hospitals are asking for registered nurses to take charge of them where hitherto they have had women who are not even nurses.

VICTORIA ANDERSON.
President.

MINNESOTA.
The Minnesota State Board of Examiners of
Nurses, Minneapolis.

MY DEAR MISS DOCK,

Our Bill for State Registration is still so youthful in Minnesota that it is difficult to give you any definite results.

State Registration is stimulating the interest of our nurses in not only present conditions, but conditions which may be better through their efforts for the future nurse and the profession at large. Uniform training and willingness on the part of smaller training schools to provide their nurses with additional training through affiliation with the larger schools, is a hopeful result in our State. We have had some difficulties with the heads of our large insane hospitals, where they maintain their nurses are sufficiently trained, but the nurses themselves see the justice in the requirement for additional training in a general hospital, and have shown their appreciation by coming up for the required examinations. Most of the applicants have been successful.

We have registered about five hundred from our various hospitals through the State.

EDITH P. ROMMEL, R.N.,
President.

NORTH CAROLINA.

State Board of Examiners for Nurses, North
Carolina.

MY DEAR MISS DOCK,

As I am no longer a member of the Examination Board of Nurses, I cannot speak as President, but I can say this much, that as a member of the Board for six years I have had ample time to observe an improvement in the nurses as they present themselves before the Board; the number has increased every year, and more hospitals are represented, and the nurses seem better prepared, and they also recognise the fact that a registered nurse has a more enviable standing than un-registered.

Yours very truly,

CONSTANCE E. PFOHL, R.N.
Ex-President, State Board of
Examiners for Nurses.

[A State with very poor educational standards generally.—L. L. D.]

Practical Points.

In a paper recently read before the British Medical Association, Dr. J. H. Clements, of Beckenham,

tailed the results of an investigation into 44 cases of summer diarrhoea in a northern town in the year 1909. These cases were notified from 42 houses, there being two sets of twins, and 40 of them occurring between August 9th and September 9th. In several houses adults or older children suffered from the disease, but were not included in the count, which only related to children under two years. The secondary cases were probably infected from a common source and not directly from the first case, for the same care was taken with the stools and linen as in the case of typhoid fever. Of the babies, 27 were under twelve months and 17 between 12 and 24 months. Of the former, 17 were under the age of 9 months, and in none of these was the baby fed entirely on the breast; 10 of them were fed wholly by bottle or artificial foods, and 7 were partly breast-fed and partly bottle-fed. The mother went out to work in 15 cases. In the great majority of the infected houses the yards were unpaved and the conveniences were privy middens. In the few cases in which the house was provided with a water-closet there were privy middens in the adjoining yards or close by. Speaking generally, the cases occurred in parts of the town where the housing was of the poorest type, where the sanitary arrangements were least satisfactory, and where there was evidence of neglect and want of cleanliness within and without the house. A rough estimate was made of the number of flies in the infected houses, and flies were collected from 15 cases for bacteriological examination. In every house where diarrhoea occurred there were num-

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