

persons as trained nurses to the public, thus undermining the work of such professional co-operations for the protection of the public from semi-trained persons posing as "trained." The economic stability of professional co-operations is also attacked, as the employers of private nursing labour for profit are not required to take out a licence and submit to inspection, and are therefore free to sweat both the nurses they "employ" and misguide the public they exploit.

While the insecurity of their professional position as unprotected women workers is thus painfully brought home to trained nurses, the Registration movement is gaining force all over the world, and, if on the honourable grounds of protection to the sick, and of according to a skilled profession that recognition which is its due, a Nurses' Registration Act is not enacted, its necessity will be forced upon the attention of the Legislature, as it cannot be long before the authorities in those countries where Registration Laws are in operation will refuse to recognise the credentials of nurses trained in the United Kingdom, the value of whose certificates is an unknown quantity. As many nurses take up work abroad on the completion of their training such a position would be most prejudicial to their professional and national reputation.

#### THE PROFESSIONAL PRESS.

In striking contrast to the time when this Journal was the only one edited by a trained nurse, the monthly mails from abroad now bring us a number of Journals from all parts of the world which discuss nursing matters from a professional standard, and at home there is a constantly increasing number of Nurses' League Journals. The production of these Journals reflects great credit on all concerned, and indeed it is somewhat extraordinary that a profession so young as that of nursing should already have produced so many capable editors. One characteristic which all such papers have in common is that they are ethically sound. Indeed, it is easy to see at once when a journal is under the influence of a professional mind, and the touch of a professional hand, by the quality of its ethics.

#### IN MEMORIAM.

We cannot close our short review of the Nursing World without reference to the grievous losses which our profession has sustained by death in the past year. The names of Florence Nightingale, Isla Stewart, and Isabel Hampton Robb are names which will for ever be cherished by nurses of succeeding generations. It is notable that the memorials raised to the memory of both Miss Stewart and

Mrs. Robb by Associations of Nurses are of an educational nature. The League of St. Bartholomew's Hospital Nurses are maintaining a scholar at Teachers' College, Columbia University, New York, where she is taking the Nursing and Health Course, which has for its purpose the preparation of trained nurses (who have the necessary qualifications) for teachers in training schools for nurses, and the National Council of Nurses is raising a Fund to provide annually for an "Isla Stewart Oration."

The Nurses of the United States have assumed the obligation of raising a fund of 50,000 dollars for a memorial to Mrs. Robb to establish a fund for post-graduate work, to be available for the use of students either in the course of Nursing and Health at Teachers' College, or in any other properly equipped school.

The memorial to Miss Florence Nightingale is to include a statue, to be erected in London, of our great Lawgiver.

#### GOOD WISHES.

As the current issue of the Journal appears on the last day of the present year it is the bearer of our good wishes to all its friends near and far, for the year upon which we are about to enter. We hope it may have in its keeping much happiness, and the fulfilment of many cherished desires for all our readers.

## Disinfectants, their Relative Values and Uses.\*

(Concluded from page 508.)

### SULPHUR DISINFECTION.

Objections have been raised against the use of sulphur, principal among which are the bleaching action of the fumes upon vegetable colouring matters; its destructive effect upon certain fabrics; its tarnishing action upon all metals; the lack of penetration of the fumes, and the danger of fire from its use. As a disinfectant and antiseptic, its use dates back to a remote period in the world's history, and, by reason of its cheapness and the ease with which it may be used, it is still popular, more especially in the smaller centres of population. To secure the best results from its use, and to minimise the danger from fire, the following method is suggested:—

Place the sulphur, in the proportion of at least three pounds for each one thousand cubic feet of air space, in a strong iron kettle, and this in an iron pail, tub, dish, or pan, somewhat larger than the kettle, and pour sufficient water in the outer vessel to reach, say half way up the sides of the kettle. The use of a small quantity of alcohol poured over the sulphur,

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[previous page](#)

[next page](#)