

making her opinion public. The Executive Committee of the Florence Nightingale Memorial is composed as follows:—The Earl of Crewe, K.G., Chairman; the Earl of Pembroke, G.C.V.O., Deputy-Chairman; the Right Hon. the Lord Mayor, Admiral the Lord Charles Beresford, G.C.V.O., M.P., the Lord Oranmore and Browne, the Right Hon. Sir Joseph Dimsdale, Bart., Sir Thomas Barlow, Bart., Sir John Wolfe Barry, K.C.B., Sir James Porter, K.C.B., L. Shore Nightingale, Esq., W. G. Rathbone, Esq., J. G. Wainwright, Esq., Dr. Ogier Ward, the Lady Marcus Beresford, the Lady Wantage, the Lady St. Helier, Miss Becher, R.R.C., Miss Hamilton, Miss Amy Hughes, Miss Lückes, Miss Ethel McCaul, R.R.C. Mr. G. Q. Roberts, the Secretary of St. Thomas's Hospital, has, we believe, been appointed hon. secretary.—*Ed.*]

#### OUR INDIAN COLLEAGUES.

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

DEAR EDITOR,—Many are the drawbacks and trials of the "exiled workers," not least among them being the hard fate of being cut off from all the joys of home, country, association, and those things that formed part of our life as long as we lived in the dear land of our birth. Most especially is this brought home to us on the occasions of special national interest, or professional struggle, defeat or success.

One does feel so hopelessly, woefully, "out of it," to read by this week's mail in *BRITISH JOURNAL* all that took place at the Pageant, and to have no part or lot in the matter.

How eagerly and joyfully we would have worked had we been "At Home," magic sweet words no "stay at home" has any idea of, yet whose very sweetness is an additional cause of home sickness and futile longing.

I trust you will so far have considered the lot of your Sisters in far off lands, as not to have sold all copies of the Words before ever our orders can reach you. Weeks ago I wrote requesting an extra supply; so that we who are always cut off from so much that we love, and would so willingly give our time to serve and help, may at least be able to read the words which you assured us were so excellent, and the extracts of which in this Journal only fan the desire to read all. Kindly sent me a copy by return.

At our Conference in December, we instructed the Secretary to ascertain the conditions, etc., of joining the International Council of Nurses. We trust that there will be no difficulty in the way of our joining. We shall, at least, feel bound together, though so far away,

Yours sincerely,

S. GRACE TINDALL,

*President, Trained Nurses' Association, India.  
Cama Hospital, Bombay.*

[We feel sure the affiliation of the Indian Matrons' and Nurses' National Association with the International Council of Nurses at Cologne will give the greatest pleasure to all those who already form the International Council, and we hope Miss Grace Tindall may be present to receive a hearty welcome.—*Ed.*]

#### THE VALUE OF HOSPITAL CERTIFICATES.

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

DEAR MADAM,—May I say how heartily I agree with your correspondent, "An Irish Trained Nurse," in her contention that it is stupid of hospital authorities to discredit the value of their own certificates.

"Stupid" seems to me exactly the right word to use. Presumably hospital authorities wish some value attached to the certificates they award their nurses. Why, then, cannot they see that if they themselves pass over the pupils they have trained, when appointing heads to their nursing schools, they cannot expect other hospital authorities to set a higher value on their certificate than they do themselves, since they are in the best position to estimate its worth. If they proclaim to the world that they have no opinion of it they must expect others to follow suit.

I do not mean that a pupil should be promoted who has not left the school after taking her certificate. But I do think that hospital committees might seek a Matron first amongst those who have gone out from the school and brought credit upon it. If they can honestly say that no such pupil is to be found, surely they should not rest satisfied till they have discovered the reason why.

I am, dear Madam,

Yours faithfully,

AN IRISH MATRON.

#### Notices.

The *BRITISH JOURNAL OF NURSING* is the only weekly professional Journal which can claim to represent Nursing Opinion as it alone is edited, and its policy controlled, by Trained Nurses.

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#### THE SOCIETY FOR THE STATE REGISTRATION OF TRAINED NURSES.

Those desirous of helping on the important movement of this Society to obtain an Act providing for the Legal Registration of Trained Nurses can obtain all information concerning the Society and its work from the Hon. Secretary, 431, Oxford Street, London, W.

#### OUR PRIZE COMPETITIONS FOR APRIL.

*April 8th.*—In what ways may sleep be induced without drugs?

*April 15th.*—What is the most important feature in the treatment of diabetic patients?

*April 22nd.*—What are the usual symptoms of pregnancy?

*April 29th.*—How are burns usually classified?

Rules for competing for this competition will be found on page xii.

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