

would be gradually effected by a Nurses' Registration Act, and in no other way. There are too many vested interests in a nurse's labour—too much exploitation in the name of charity. Cottage and village so-called nurses should be presented to the poor in their right name—as “certified midwives.” They are not trained nurses, and lay-managed nursing associations have no right to bestow the title upon them. We are told that this is practised to meet the objections of country medical practitioners—if so, they also are to blame. One thing is quite certain: when the medical profession determinedly demands from Parliament that the sick poor shall no longer be deceived concerning the qualifications of its “nurses”—and that the minimum qualification for a trained nurse shall be defined—this important question, concerning so intimately the standard of national health—will very speedily be settled.

Whether semi-trained cottage nurses are to be permitted a footing in rural Ireland largely depends upon the medical profession—if it refuses to recognise them, no amount of social influence can force them upon the Irish poor.

Nurses owe Mr. de Courcy Wheeler, personally, a great debt of gratitude, as he has on more than one occasion publicly supported the demand for State Registration of Nurses.—[Ed.]

INNOCENTS ABROAD.

To the Editor of THE BRITISH JOURNAL OF NURSING.

DEAR MADAM,—I was indeed glad to read the report of the Matrons' Council Meeting. There are so many meetings held by men and women, all for talk, that when a really good bit of humanitarian work is projected one may well rejoice.

I am,
Yours truly,
A PROFESSIONAL WOMAN.

CHRISTMAS HAMPERS AND CLOTHING FOR LITTLE CRIPPLES.

To the Editor of THE BRITISH JOURNAL OF NURSING.

MADAM,—May I once again ask the courtesy of your columns to remind your generous readers of the distribution of Christmas Hampers and Clothing to Poor Crippled Children in the Metropolis.

Every year for the last seventeen years, I have, by the kind permission of the Corporation, entertained some 1,200 poor children at the Guildhall.

I hope, as usual, to dispatch the welcome hampers to my little friends on the morning of the day when this annual banquet will again be held.

I have received a letter from Lt.-Col. Sir William Carington, informing me that His Majesty the King is graciously pleased to continue the subscription to this Fund, which it is my privilege to bring to the annual notice of the public.

I am hoping that this year I shall be able to say I have denied no deserving applicant. In future, I propose to hand any balance I may have to the Hospital and College for Crippled Children, at Alton, which bears my name, and to the Guild which has been formed for the purpose of clothing the 270 children residing there.

The Hon. Mrs. H. Lawson is the President of the Guild, and Miss Treloar is its Hon. Secretary.

With the hamper the little cripple entertains the family, and on a modest estimate the Fund brightens the lives at Christmas time of over thirty thousand of the poor of London.

Donations may be sent as heretofore to me, addressed “Little Cripples' Christmas Hamper and Clothing Fund.”

I am, Madam,
Yours truly,
W. P. TRELOAR.

69, Ludgate Hill, London, E.C.

P.S.—I may add that I am asking the Mayors of the Metropolitan Boroughs and the London City Mission to co-operate with me, and I hope with their kind help to distribute the hampers on the widest possible basis in this the eighteenth year of the distribution.

WHY NURSES NEED VOTES.

To the Editor of THE BRITISH JOURNAL OF NURSING.

DEAR MADAM,—I enclose my subscription for THE BRITISH JOURNAL OF NURSING. I watch with great interest the brave efforts made in the cause of Registration.

How deplorable that such up-hill work should be necessary.

True it is that “none are so blind as those who won't see.”

All honour to those who continue the fight, may they be rewarded ere long by the complete fulfilment of their desires.

Yours faithfully,
J. MELITA JONES, R.N.

Auckland, New Zealand.

REPLIES TO CORRESPONDENTS.

Miss K. Hull.—Apply to the Matron of a Children's Hospital. You are not old enough for admission into an adult hospital.

Officer's Daughter.—Apply to the Matron-in-Chief, War Office, London, S.W.

Mrs. G. May, Scarborough.—We fear without training you will find great difficulty in obtaining the position of Assistant Matron in a good hospital. These posts are now eagerly sought by well-qualified Nurses—for the sake of experience in domestic management, and as a step towards a matronship. Why not qualify?

NOTICES.

OUR PRIZE COMPETITIONS FOR NOVEMBER.

November 4th.—What are the special points to be observed in nursing meningitis?

November 11th.—What are the common non-alcoholic beverages, and how are they best made?

November 18th.—What are the symptoms of abortion?

November 25th.—Mention some talents, and how she should use them, that a nurse must cultivate if she wishes to be successful as a Sister of Wards.

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