

Signed on behalf of the Executive Councils of the above Societies.

W. B. RIPON.  
LAUDER BRUNTON.  
JOHN TWEEDY.  
MARY SCHARLIEB.  
HENRY KENWOOD.  
F. N. KAY MENZIES.  
A. WELLESLEY HARRIS.  
F. LANKESTER.

#### PROFESSIONAL ETHICS.

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

DEAR MADAM,—As I was present at our annual meeting of the Society for State Registration of Nurses, I wish to protest against the ignorant and most inaccurate report given in Macmillan's lay nursing journal. These rich publishing firms do not hesitate to make money out of us nurses. All items of news concerning our meetings are so much grist to their mill, and the least they can do is to insert true and accurate reports if we extend the courtesy of admission to their reporters. We members are much indebted to our Hon. Secretary, Miss Breay, for her exposition of the unfair methods of the unprofessional press. It is a pity that professional women, calling themselves registrationists, associate themselves with it, and are not above being paid for doing so. Nothing can be more disloyal to our cause, and it is this sort of thing which brings women as a sex into contempt. We might well take a lesson from the professional ethics of the British Medical Association, which have been demonstrated over the National Insurance Bill, and medical practitioners generally. United they stand, disunited we as a body are nowhere.

Yours truly,

A MEMBER OF THE REGISTERED  
NURSES' SOCIETY.

#### THE AMENITIES OF SOCIETY.

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

DEAR MADAM,—May I ask if reporters have a right to attend the business meetings and social reunions of nurses without an invitation, as this has been done on more than one occasion with a society to which I belong, and mischief made?

Yours truly,

INDIGNANT.

[No one has a right to attend a private business meeting, excepting the members of the society, and for a reporter to thrust herself into a social gathering without an invitation is most impertinent. The right thing to do is to inform the Editor of the paper for which she works that when the attendance of a reporter is required an invitation will be sent. Several nursing societies of late years have been compelled to deal firmly with this intrusion.—Ed.]

#### MIDWIVES AND THE STATE.

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

DEAR MADAM,—In reading over the report of the Central Midwives' Board meeting in last week's issue, I am glad to note that the Committee recognise the fact that midwifery is women's work.

There has been a great deal of talk about women taking men's work, but, in the case of midwifery, men have certainly monopolised the cream of women's work until it is now scarcely fashionable not to have a doctor in attendance at such time.

Sir George Fordham has voiced the truth in regard to midwives in the resolution he proposed. If any class of workers ought to be paid by the State it is midwives. Their work is most depressing, and to be badly paid makes it a hundred times worse, and they are expected to do a great deal more than the doctor would ever think of doing.

If all the midwifery cases were in the hands of midwives, and the rules of the Central Midwives' Board carried out, it would go a long way in making the country cleaner and sweeter and purer, and to make sure of their remuneration would be the first thing to raise the standard of midwives.

In my opinion the Central Midwives' Board are most exacting in their rules laid down for midwives, and I sometimes wonder if the same rules are laid down for doctors, because I am sure doctors do not carry these rules out.

I am a L.O.S. who was refused the certificate of the Central Midwives' Board because I failed to claim it within the limited period of grace through ill health, and now I am having great hardships through not having it.

I am, yours faithfully,

Wilton Dean, Roxburghshire. M. ATKINSON.

### Comments and Replies.

*Border Nurse.*—You would find the names of the principal poor law infirmaries in the northern counties of England in the Medical Directory, with those of the provincial hospitals. The Directory also gives the names of the hospitals in both England and Scotland.

*Superintendent.*—The National Insurance Bill may be obtained from Wyman and Sons, Ltd., Fetter Lane, E.C., or through any bookseller, price 8½d.

### Notices.

#### STATE REGISTRATION OF TRAINED NURSES.

Full information as to the movement for the State Registration of Trained Nurses can be obtained from the Hon. Secretary of the Society for the State Registration of Trained Nurses, 431, Oxford Street, London, W.

#### OUR PRIZE COMPETITIONS FOR JULY.

*July 8th.*—What special virtue has normal salt solution that it is so universally used for intravenous infusion, and some varieties of enemata?

*July 15th.*—What are some of the complications to be watched for during pregnancy, and their causes?

*July 22nd.*—From what source is blood renewed after hæmorrhage?

*July 29th.*—How would you prepare a patient for paracentesis? What instruments and utensils are needed?

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