

WELCOME HELP.

The Hon. Secretary of the Society for State Registration begs to thank members who have paid their annual 1s. subscription, and also to acknowledge a donation of £2 2s. from the General Hospital Birmingham Nurses' League as "a small token of appreciation of the delightful address so kindly given on State Registration" by the President, and £1 1s. from Miss Janet Stewart, "in memory of Isla Stewart"; Miss B. Cutler, 5s.; Miss L. Wariner, 5s.; Miss A. Henderson (Cape Town), 4s. Subscriptions and donations are urgently required to carry on the education of our legislators, and the public, on the State Registration Movement.

THE SCOTTISH NURSES' ASSOCIATION.

The following motion, passed at a large meeting of nurses held in Glasgow on March 4th, has been forwarded to the National Insurance Commissioners for Scotland:—

That this meeting would respectfully submit to the Commissioners that Hospitals be not permitted to contract out of paying their regular proportion as employers in view of the disabilities which it would impose upon nurses on leaving such hospitals to take up either private work or any other of the many branches of nursing.

A WOMAN'S "LITTLE BIT."

Englishwomen often do a splendid bit of work for the Empire and for humanity of which the world never hears. Recently it came to our knowledge in discussing the Quarantine Station at El Tor, on the Red Sea, that in 1898 Dr. Ruffer, President of the Quarantine Board of Egypt, asked Miss B. Cutler, then at Cairo, to find him a nurse to inspect the female pilgrims on their return from Mecca. Grasping the great importance of the work, Miss Cutler volunteered to go herself, so she obtained three months' leave from the Public Institutions Department, under which she was working, and went to El Tor, where she helped to organize the station. At that time, when two or three steamers came in, thousands of pilgrims were placed under canvas. There is now at El Tor a most perfect Quarantine Station, with disinfecting apparatus and baths complete, where Miss Smythe, a Bart's nurse, is in charge, and to which 6 or 8 certificated nurses go down when the Pilgrimage is returning from Mecca to Europe. Dr. Ruffer, a most charming and

clever man, is still President, and no doubt he is well pleased with the growth of his scheme, and the immunity from infection and disease which has resulted. But a woman did her "little bit," and did it well.

NURSES' MISSIONARY LEAGUE.

The Tenth Annual Conference and Meeting of the Nurses' Missionary League will be held at University Hall, Gordon Square, W.C., on Tuesday, April 23rd.

PROGRAMME.

MORNING MEETING, 10-12.30.

Chairman—Miss J. Macfee, B.A.

Devotional Address—Miss E. M. Bailey. *The Nurses' Missionary League from 1903-1912*—Miss A. M. Cable (China). *Discussion on Bible Study*. Interval. *Address—Vocation: What constitutes a call?*—The Rev. E. N. Sharpe, M.A. *Intercession*.

AFTERNOON CONVERSAZIONE, 2.30-5.30.

Hostesses—Miss Davies (St. Mary's Hospital, Paddington), Miss Bird (Great Northern Central Hospital), Miss E. M. Jones (late Royal Infirmary, Liverpool).

Address—"Why should I as a Nurse be interested in Medical Missions?" Miss E. C. Gregory, *Missionary Exhibit*, illustrative of the Religions and Religious needs of China, described by Miss E. E. Overton and Miss L. Stevenson.

EVENING MEETING, 7.30-9.30.

Chairman—Miss Haughton (Guy's Hospital).

Business Meeting—Adoption of Report, &c., W. McAdam Eccles, Esq., F.R.C.S. *Missionary Address*—G. E. Dodson, Esq., M.R.C.S. *Closing Address*—R. P. Wilder, Esq. (Student Christian Movement).

PRACTICAL POINTS.

The *Southern California Practitioner* says:—"In spite of the use of special instruments, the removal of apparatus containing plaster-of-Paris is often troublesome, and in the case of a recent fracture may cause injury. Methods of softening the plaster by water, either alone or with the addition of salt, are rarely successful, as the apparatus becomes coated with a layer of grease which prevents their action. The writer has obtained satisfactory results by moistening the line of section with vinegar applied on a tampon."

Over-distention of the bladder, says the *Pacific Medical Journal*, due to neurasthenia, hysteria, shock, or prolonged voluntary retention may be overcome by administering a rectal enema consisting of a pint of warm water and an ounce of glycerine.

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