

people should have fully-trained nurses. Those who propose to employ partially trained women take upon themselves a heavy burden of responsibility, for the mistakes which occur from unskilled labour not only endanger but may cost life.

As it seems altogether to be a question of finance, I would suggest the formation of a Central Fund, which would supplement the contributions from each district, thereby providing a skilled nurse. The Irish Matrons are only too willing to co-operate with the United Irishwomen and to help in every way.

Yours faithfully,

A. CARSON RAE,

Member of Irish Matrons' Association.

(The proposal to establish a Central Fund, to help local effort to supply thoroughly trained nurses for the very poor in Ireland, is well worthy of consideration by the United Irishwomen. No doubt this body is inspired by the kindest and worthiest motives, but this is not enough when the health and lives of fellow creatures are at stake. A three months' smattering in "nursing" is worse than useless; it is a public danger if such workers are dressed in professional uniform and encouraged to consider themselves "trained" nurses. The careful consideration of this question is one to which we hope the Irish Matrons' Council will give time. Never in the annals of nursing since district nursing has begun, has so inefficient a standard of training as the three months suggested by the United Irishwomen, on the Holt Ockley system, been adopted. We earnestly hope that the rural poor in Ireland may by some means be protected from the extension of so dangerous a system of cottage nursing.—ED.)

THE GOSPEL OF WORK.

To the Editor of THE BRITISH JOURNAL OF NURSING.

DEAR MADAM,—In connection with your most interesting Editorial last week, on "The Gospel of Work" (with which I agree with all my heart), I think you may like to see the following verses which I came across (unsigned), a short time ago.

Every mason in the quarry,
Every builder on the shore,
Every woodman in the forest,
Every boatman at the oar;
Hewing wood and drawing water,
Splitting stones and clearing sod;
All the dusty ranks of labour
In the regiment of God,
March together towards His temple
Do the tasks His hands prepare:
Honest toil is holy service,
Faithful work is done by prayer.

Yours sincerely,

E. P. CRAIG.

Fleet, Hants.

OUR BOOK OF THE WEEK.

To the Editor of THE BRITISH JOURNAL OF NURSING.

DEAR MADAM,—THE BRITISH JOURNAL OF NURSING was sent to me for December 16th. I was away from home at the time, and it was not forwarded to me, but now I have seen it and read your review of my novel, "Ripe Corn," I would like just to write my appreciation of it. I think of the many my publishers have sent me to read none have pleased me more than yours.

Believe me,

Yours truly,

S. C. NETHERSOLE.

King Street, Sandwich.

REPLIES TO CORRESPONDENTS.

Mrs. Evans, Aberystwyth.—The National Insurance Act is now published in its final form, and is obtainable through any bookseller, price 1s. 3d., or from Wyman & Sons, Ltd., Fetter Lane, E.C. It consists of 115 Clauses, and requires careful and prolonged study if its provisions are to be mastered.

Private Nurse.—Motor neurosis is a form of gastric neurosis, in which there is super-mobility of the stomach, which causes it to discharge its contents too quickly. Often there are nervous eructations of gas, or vomiting, almost immediately after meals, without nausea.

OUR PRIZE COMPETITION FOR JANUARY.

January 13th.—How should male nurses be trained to fit them for their duties?

January 20th.—How would you deal with the umbilical cord, from the moment of birth till its separation from the child?

January 27th.—What care must be taken when removing the clothes of a person badly burned?

NOTICES.

THE ISLA STEWART ORATION PAMPHLET.

The Isla Stewart Oration Pamphlet with Portrait can now be obtained from THE BRITISH JOURNAL OF NURSING Office, 431, Oxford Street, London, W. Price One Shilling.

NEW SUBSCRIBERS.

The Editor hopes that every reader, who values THE BRITISH JOURNAL OF NURSING, will get one or more new subscribers—so that its constructive work for the profession may receive ever increasing support.

STATE REGISTRATION OF TRAINED NURSES.

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

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