

modesty, to emphasise their ribaldry a large Red Cross was tacked on to the seat of the pair of trousers worn by one nurse." Women capable of such an outrage to decency should have no place in a Government Service, and we look to Mr. Herbert Samuel to inaugurate a system where their employment would be impossible.

Probably the most gratifying feature at the recent meeting of the Leicester Board of Guardians was the announcement that a second night nurse had been appointed to look after the floor containing 30 patients, including a nursery of 14 babies under three years of age. In spite of the contention of Mr. Gibson that the nursing staff was both efficient and sufficient, we are of opinion that it never can be so until it is made impossible for a poor little child to die alone in convulsions with no medical attendance, and no nurse to comfort it in its death struggles. Think of it! Does it not make the heart bleed?

IMPRESSIONS OF SCOTTISH NURSES.

By MISS BEATRICE KENT.

I attended the Nursing Exhibition at Glasgow by request of the Editor of this journal. "Go, she said, "and sow the seed. The seed of professional organisation for which this journal alone makes an effective stand. Emphasise its policy: Skilled nursing for all classes, effective education for all nurses, just economic conditions for nurses—that is better pay for their invaluable work—and State Registration for qualified nurses. Then impress upon Scottish nurses how vastly important it is that *each one* should take an active interest in the uplifting of her own profession, and work hard to have it, through an Act of Parliament, put on a sound educational and economic basis."

So off I flew, and by the kind hospitality and courtesy of Miss M. Wright, the Matron of the splendid Municipal Stobhill Hospital, soon found myself a well-cared-for guest in this fine institution, in which the people of Glasgow have a right to feel much civic pride.

Magnificently placed on a hill, all the buoyant winds of heaven disport themselves around this hospital, for straight off the Atlantic Ocean, over the isles of the sea, and up the Clyde they rush, and to a Londoner listening to their fierce turmoil from a cosy bed, it seemed almost impossible that in the general whirl that one germ of disease could be left behind to meet the light of day. But in the sunlight of morning Stobhill Hospital remained erect and unmoved, and its 2,000 inmates required all the skilled care of yesterday.

"THE BRITISH JOURNAL OF NURSING" STAND.

The portal of our Exhibition Stand presented quite a classical appearance. Two rectangular

columns, one on either side, in white painted wood supported our entablature bearing our title in blue. The whole was prettily moulded and looked well. Trade was brisk. This was due to the intelligence of the Scottish nurses, and their good nature in stopping to listen while I expatiated upon the merits of the journal, (1) as a professional journal, and (2) as a literary production. Many of them did not know the all-essential difference between a professional nursing journal and those edited and controlled by the laity, but they were quick to see the point, and their interest was aroused. With very few exceptions, I was delighted to find them keen on State Registration; this afforded me a peg to hang another argument upon.

Of course we all wanted and longed for it, *of course* we saw the need for it becoming more urgent every day, but if we are going to benefit so largely by the reform, should we not co-operate with those who have been working so strenuously for so many years to obtain it? I represented to my eager listeners that there was one easy way in which we could all help, even the busiest, namely, we all could, and should, subscribe *individually* to our own professional journal which is the *organ for State Registration*; if this were done we should all be working together, and pulling together, and by the strength of such unity we should compel the attention of the legislators and the thing would be done. They had not thought of it in that light before, but many left the impression on my mind that they would henceforth not be unmindful of it.

"If we all would do the little that we can do!" said one nurse with a sweet face. Another was wearing the badge of a Scottish Registration Society, and she assured me she was deeply interested in the question. She received quite a shock of surprise when I pointed out the inconsistency of subscribing to publications which were fighting *against* the reform that she loved!

A few gave practical proof of their earnestness of purpose by arranging to become subscribers to the Journal at once. Besides every available copy of the Journal, we disposed of a large number of Miss Alice Wackrill's excellent pamphlet on State Registration, and other leaflets on the question, and on Hygiene and Morality. Miss Dock's History of Nursing was on view. The sale of our literature was most encouraging, and we shall look forward to a fruitful harvest of results. It is well known that the Scotch set a high value on education, so that the mind is trained to the capability of considering questions of reform and their probable effects. "I shall certainly take in THE BRITISH JOURNAL OF NURSING," said several nurses with minds open to conviction, and who realised their responsibility towards their profession.

I am convinced the seed was sown in Glasgow in very fertile soil, well tilled and cultivated, and that the harvest will be plenteous.

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