

a charitable organisation with no settled income with the exception of certain grants. The Corporation has shown its appreciation of the services of the nurses by giving them free tram passes all over the city up to £5 a year for each nurse, but it is a proof of how extensive is their area, and how many are the calls upon them that £10 in excess for car fares appears on the books.

We have received from the National Food Reform Association a fat little pamphlet of Facts for Patriots, which contains most invaluable information on the Use and Abuse of Vegetables, The Place of Fruit in the Diet, Sweets to the Sweet, The Staff of Life, and Why a Pure Food Act is Needed. To raise and secure the quality of food, its cooking and serving is now a patriotic duty and service of the highest order. There is no doubt of this in the minds of those who have evidence of how our soldiers are often fed. We need fewer amateur nurses, and more thoroughly skilled cooks. If more girls with time to spare would train to feed the Army, they would be playing a splendidly patriotic part. Facts for Patriots, price 3d., will help them to realise this fact.

PROPOSED NURSING SERVICE FOR THE WORKING CLASSES.

On the proposed Nursing Service the Representative Body of the British Medical Association welcomes the proposal of the Government to establish a Nursing Service to be utilised for the whole working-class population, and is of opinion that when established it should be under the control of the proposed new Joint Clinical Authority, composed of representatives of the Insurance, Public Health, and Education Local Authorities, with representatives of the Local Medical and Panel Committees, and of the Local Hospitals, or under the Insurance Committee, strengthened for this purpose by the addition of representatives of the above-named bodies.

We hope that the Nursing Profession will be given adequate representation on any Authority to establish a Nursing Service for the working classes. The great defect in the composition of committees which govern the County and District Nursing Associations, is the exclusion of sufficient expert representation. The poor are therefore at the mercy of social patronage in sickness, as apart from well-considered expert organization. We hope the British Medical Association will keep this point of view in mind.

STATE REGISTRATION.

The *Canadian Nurse* says nurses everywhere should study the question of Registration as they have never studied it before, for never before has the lack of legal status wrought such wholesale injustice, and, as usual, it is the sick who are the greatest sufferers. It is true the sick have suffered at the hands of the pretender many a time, but the injustice stands out more glaringly when our brave soldiers are the victims.

The following excerpt from the *Canadian Journal of Medicine and Surgery* gives the truth plainly.

"SOB-SISTERS.

"It is well for the nerves of the soldiers that they can laugh, and some amusing remarks from even their censored letters have been 'going the rounds' in Toronto about the brigade of 'sob-sisters' who have usurped the rights of the trained nurses and made the sick beds of the men anything but beds of ease.

"It is bad enough to be in the grip of pain from wounds, be they won ever so gloriously, but to have to 'put up with a kind but clumsy young woman gushing over me, sticking every pin in as if one were a human pin-cushion, being burned with a hot-water bottle—well, it's more than we bargained for.' It is not right. It is only fair that trained nurses under strictest discipline, who know their work, and whose business it is to do it faithfully and well, should take charge of the wounded. No wonder strong protests come from surgeons and men alike at the nuisance these kind but misguided young busybodies make of themselves, and how their violent and untrained efforts often seriously retard the recovery of their soldier victims.

"What a pity these 'sob-sisters' cannot 'see theirselves as ithers see them' and go home, join the knitting brigade, and get busy praying (as every woman should do) for Peace."

We hear from Melbourne that it is hoped the Australian Nurses' Registration Bill will come up next session. Dr. Hornan, the President of the Australasian Branch of the British Medical Association, is a very good friend to the nurses, and has promised his help, and with Sir Ronald and Lady Helen Munro-Ferguson at Government House, the Bill should have a good chance of becoming law, as it should have done long ago in a country where women are enfranchised.

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