

tion campaign. We always feared the College policy would be a veritable "apple of discord" in the nursing profession, and indeed it is proving to be so.

"Faugh-a-Ballagh," who writes abusively of the I.N.A. in the *Irish Times*, is evidently perturbed about loaves and fishes; she ends her letter, "There is a possibility that nurses not on the register of the College of Nursing will be debarred from obtaining positions in Great Britain and the Colonies." This threat is, we believe, being used as an inducement to influence nurses to register—and it is just this dangerous and unjustifiable tyranny in high places which nurses should fight for all they are worth. It spells serfdom and nothing short of it.

LIONS AND LAMBS.

The Rev. J. Shaw stated at a recent meeting of the Epsom Board of Guardians that the College Bill had been withdrawn (it has never yet been introduced) and "that there was no chance of a Bill being considered for a long time yet, and, further, that there must be an agreed Bill, one agreed to by all the responsible nursing authorities in existence. Until there was agreement the Government would not even look at a Bill."

That was a pronouncement by the now defunct "Wait and See" Government. A policy as ridiculous as if it had determined never to enact any industrial legislation until all the lions and lambs in the universe were snoozing side by side—or in other words, until every capitalist had dictated how labour might be permitted to breathe. Let us hope we have heard the last of such futile feebleness so far as working women are concerned. The duty of the State is to protect the lambs from the lions.

PROFESSIONALLY DEFUNCT.

Sir Henry Burdett, the most virulent anti-registrationist of them all, has, considering his age, shown remarkable agility in having turned a complete somersault on this question, and he is now posing in his hospital journals as in favour of a form of legislation for nurses, which he has anathematised for thirty years. It is a matter of no importance which policy he forswears for the time being—the villain in the piece is always Mrs. Bedford Fenwick. We usually waste no time in reading the commercial nursing press, but in recent weeks, Sir Henry Burdett, a veritable Bombastes Furioso, has, in his advocacy of his pet scheme, the College of Nursing, Limited, made himself more ridiculous than usual when dealing with the organization of the nursing profession, of which he knows nothing and cares less. He informs his credulous readers—and no doubt the wish is father to the misstatement—that Mrs. Bedford Fenwick is professionally defunct, and "has withdrawn herself from co-operation in the difficult work of organizing the nursing profession, enlarging its outlook, increasing its democratic character, and providing the surest opportunities for education and advance-

ment in life for the maximum number of British nurses, and has left the field open and free to its cultivation by the able women who constitute a large proportion of the Council of the College of Nursing."

The truth is that Mrs. Bedford Fenwick has "withdrawn herself" from no work which she considers will benefit the nursing profession, through sound self-governing organisation and just legislation, and she intends to support in the future, as she has in the past, methods by which such advancement can alone be attained, but she is neither to be deluded into supporting a form of organisation and legislation calculated to lead the rank and file into an economic bog, nor to be bullied by irresponsible turncoats in the Press or out of it.

The piteous picture as presented by Sir Henry Burdett of Mrs. Bedford Fenwick repudiated "by her sisters in the nursing world, after all their consideration and forbearance extended to her," and after "strong remonstrances against her unconstitutional and uncalled-for policy," being led into the wilderness and there left to "sow dissension" in unproductive places, would have drawn tears from a crocodile if it had not caused such irresistible mirth throughout the nursing world.

THE NATIONAL UNION OF TRAINED NURSES.

A USEFUL PAMPHLET.

A very useful pamphlet on "Nurses' Salaries: With notes on the Economic Conditions in the Nursing Profession," has been issued by the National Union of Trained Nurses, and may be obtained from the Secretary, N.U.T.N., 46, Marsham Street, S.W., price 2½d., including postage, or 2s. a dozen, post free. The pamphlet states that, in response to the constant complaint of shortage of nurses, it seems advisable to have a short summary of the advantages and disadvantages of the nursing profession from an economic point of view. Amongst the reasons assigned for this shortage, particularly of educated women, are (1) The hard life, (2) Poor food and lack of comfort, (3) The poor prospects. Also it is to be noted that many contracts with probationers are very one-sided documents, giving all the advantages to the hospitals. The statements are supported by statistics compiled by the Union during the last two years.

NEW APPOINTMENTS.

V.A. Hospital, Chetnote, Dorset.—Miss B. Bentham, Sister-in-Charge.

V.A. Hospital, Exeter.—Miss M. E. Smyth, Sister.

Meath Home, Godalming.—Miss G. E. Crockford, Charge Nurse.

V.A. Hospital, Swyncombe, Henley-on-Thames.—Miss K. Williams, Sister.

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