

contributed to the *Nineteenth Century*, writes:—

"A human being is not only a body but a soul and spirit. Those rare souls who have achieved great spiritual development have passed through great adventures without paying much heed to the lesser component parts of the mysterious human entity, but never in the history of human endeavour has concentration upon the physical needs of man led him far or high.

"Joan of Arc's inspiration, her ideals, came from celestial voices, but her knowledge of her country's need, its passionate longing for freedom from the invader, came to her through the songs of the troubadours; it is the artists who preserve and express the genius of the race or the cry of a nation's soul.

"But we English have acquired the habit of regarding food for the soul as rather unnecessary and a waste of money, so we devote all our national attentions to the material welfare of our army, not even forgetting chocolates and cigarettes. Yet the soul can starve too. Feed a man's body on a persistent diet of strong meat and it sickens; feed a soul on nothing but war, bloodshed and discipline, and after a time it will droop. The soul does not suffer so quickly as the body, it is tougher, it can endure longer, but after a time without food, without inspiration, its vitality ebbs and fades.

"That is why some of us feel that no effort is too great to ensure the continuance of our touring parties to bring change and happiness to thousands and thousands of those who have given up their all for us, who are supplied by the nation with food, clothes, arms—the bare necessities of life and death."

Those who wish for the privilege of sharing in this good work should send their contributions to Miss Lena Ashwell, 36, Grosvenor Street, London, W.

THE CENTRAL COMMITTEE FOR THE STATE REGISTRATION OF NURSES.

The above Committee met on Thursday, July 13th, to further consider a Nurses' Registration Bill, in the Council Chamber of the British Medical Association, 429, Strand. Mr. Domville was in the Chair. The Hon. Secretaries, Mrs. Bedford Fenwick and Dr. Goodall presented a Report on conferences with the representatives of the College of Nursing, at which they had agreed on several important principles. The Committee considered the various clauses of the Bill and approved the agreed clauses and amendments. Amendments and clauses for further consideration were considered and passed, and have since been sent to Mr. Stanley, Chairman of the College of Nursing, Limited. The all important question of the method of constituting the General Nursing Council has not yet been agreed upon, although direct representation of all registered nurses has been accepted as a fundamental principle of its constitution. The demand of organizations of lay people for representation on the governing body

of the nursing profession, which will be primarily responsible for the professional education and discipline of nurses as a whole cannot be entertained. Such lay organizations are not qualified, neither do they attempt, to dominate the General Medical Council. Why, therefore, should they assume control on the General Nursing Council?

The earnest women who act as the delegates of the Nurses' Organizations on the Central Committee for the State Registration of Nurses, have proved quite capable of conducting their own affairs, and the more power entrusted to the elected direct representatives of the nursing profession on the General Nursing Council the better. Trained nurses can no longer be treated as children, a silly hospital pose in the last century which has long become obsolete.

THE BRITISH MEDICAL ASSOCIATION AND REGISTRATION.

In a supplementary report to the Council the Medico-Political Committee of the British Medical Association states:—"In view of the recent establishment of a College of Nursing, conferences have taken place between representatives of that Body and of the Central Committee for the State Registration of Nurses in order to ascertain whether a Bill can be agreed upon which will secure the efficient and proper registration of nurses. It is hoped that by the time of the Representative Meeting it will be possible to report more fully on the progress that has been made."

The Annual Representative Meeting of the British Medical Association will be held in London on July 28th and following days as may be required. The Council recommends "That the Representative Body take into consideration the possibility of establishing by means of the proposed (Nurses' Registration) Bill now under consideration by the College of Nursing and the Central Committee for the State Registration of Nurses, the general principles desired by the Association in respect of the State Registration of Nurses, and whether the Association would be justified in supporting the Bill."

HORLICK'S MALTED MILK ON TREK.

A nurse who took part in the historic trek over the Montenegrin mountains, writes that she does not think without Horlick's Malted Milk some of the party could have returned alive. She says, "I carried a bottle over the Montenegrin mountains with me, and used it very sparingly, as we were afraid some one would be ill, and require it before the end of our journey with others I have reason to be very grateful for Malted Milk." A soldier writes of the tablets that "they are a real good stimulant when we do any marching, they give power to the body and take away all fatigue," and another, who was in heavy fighting in Gallipoli, writes that they kept up his strength at a time when both food and water were pretty scarce.

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