

PASTURES NEW.

The Solicitors (Qualification of Women) Bill was read a third time and passed, on the motion of Lord Buckmaster, on Thursday, 8th inst. Of course the Law Society opposed. This is a most progressive step towards fair play for women, and we congratulate our sex on at last finding the door open into the legal arena. We associate law with a dry-as-dust environment, but it is extraordinarily interesting, and we only wish we were forty years younger, and could qualify for the profession. Happy girls who may flit into pastures new!

COMING EVENTS.

March 17th.—Irish Nurses' Association. Annual Meeting. 34, St. Stephen's Green, Dublin.

March 20th.—East London Nursing Society, Annual Meeting, 34, Queen Anne's Gate, S.W. By kind invitation of Lord and Lady Glenconner. 3 p.m.

March 22nd.—Association for Promoting the Training and Supply of Midwives. Annual Meeting, 9, Queen Anne Street, Cavendish Square, W., Major A. P. Luff, R.A.M.C. (T.), presiding. Address on "Midwifery and Government Subsidies," by Dr. George Reid, D.P.H. 3.30 p.m.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR.

Whilst cordially inviting communications upon all subjects for these columns, we wish it to be distinctly understood that we do not in any way hold ourselves responsible for the opinions expressed by our correspondents.

NO TAXATION WITHOUT REPRESENTATION.

To the Editor of THE BRITISH JOURNAL OF NURSING.

DEAR MADAM,—I most heartily endorse Miss Kent's suggestion for a levy upon oneself of one halfpenny per week, as a practical proof of our interest in our own Nurses' Registration Bill.

I beg to enclose 2s. 2d. for the current year.

Few nurses, I fear, realise how much money is, and has to be spent, before we can gain the ear of our Legislature.

A careful study of the procedure of the Nursing College Authorities *ought* to teach this fact. They obviously are raking in the guineas from nurses before proceeding to ask Parliament to give them autocratic power over our much exploited profession.

I have a dismal recollection of my guineas being recklessly subscribed to the R.B.N. Association.

I awoke to the realisation that this was wasted money as far as my professional interests were concerned.

"Sold" is the epitaph I write over that past transaction.

In the future I mean only to place my guineas where I shall have a voice in their expenditure, and advise all self-respecting nurses to do the same.

Yours faithfully,

THE SISTER MILITARY HOSPITAL.

THE UNTRAINED COMMANDANT MUST GO.

To the Editor of THE BRITISH JOURNAL OF NURSING.

DEAR MADAM,—As a constant reader of THE BRITISH JOURNAL OF NURSING for the last eight years and a strong advocate for State registration I shall be very glad to welcome the day when untrained Commandants have been removed from being the heads of V.A.D. Hospitals as I consider the only persons suitable for the position are trained nurses. Why should we spend three or four years in learning a profession then only to be put subordinate to women who know nothing whatever about nursing? I must say at *least* it is degrading to our profession. Eighteen months ago I helped to organise one of these Hospitals and it was hopeless to even try to work with the Commandant.

Occasionally one finds a V.A.D. of value, but as a body they are very irresponsible.

Yours truly,

TRAINED NURSE.

SHOULD V.A.D.'S SLEEP ON NIGHT DUTY?

To the Editor of THE BRITISH JOURNAL OF NURSING.

DEAR MADAM,—Surely there can be but one reply to the above question. Decidedly not. But may I ask another? Should V.A.D.s do night duty? In the Red Cross Hospitals I have worked in trained nurses did the night duty, and we did day duty. As I and others had many other things to do, as well as our service in hospitals, I surely should have fallen asleep had I been put on night duty. We did not agree for it.

Yours truly,

C. M.

To the Editor of THE BRITISH JOURNAL OF NURSING.

DEAR MADAM,—I am glad someone has raised the question of sleeping on night duty in Red Cross Hospitals. It was a common practice in two hospitals in which I worked. Sometimes I thought it gave the patients a chance of sound sleep too, as the noise and fluster of the over-anxious V.A.D.s in the night was more injurious to nervous patients than the loss of an occasional dose of medicine. We drew the line at loud snoring. The enclosed verses written by a patient may amuse you but are not for publication.

Yours sincerely,

A STAFF NURSE.

[These standards appear very lax to the "Old Guard." The verses are very amusing.—Ed.]

Several interesting letters are unavoidably held over.

OUR PRIZE COMPETITIONS.

March 24th.—Describe how you would care for and feed a premature infant.

March 31st.—What is a civic nurse? Give an idea of her true relationship to the municipality and public health service.

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