

London—a body composed of some thirty persons, Chairmen of Hospitals and members of their medical staffs—introduced into the House of Lords in 1908, and which, through the generous advocacy of Lord Ampthill, was thrown out by a substantial majority; (4) the latest, but by no means the least dangerous attempt, the resuscitated Guy's scheme under the new title of "The College of Nursing, Ltd.," the constitution of which is almost word for word identical with that of the obnoxious scheme of the Incorporated Society for the higher Education and Training of Nurses, and (5) the determined endeavour to pauperize our profession, by Viscountess Cowdray and a committee of actresses, under the title of the British Women's Hospital Committee, who, in spite of the strongly expressed opposition of self-supporting professional women, have flooded an obsequious press with columns of highly paid advertisements appealing for charity in the name of the Nation's Nurses, in support of the College of Nursing, Ltd., whose tyrannical constitution is a disgrace to any country where working women merit respect.

These attempts to control the educational, professional, and economic status of the nursing profession prove how determined has been the policy of hospital managers and their most highly paid officials to deprive the rank and file of the Nursing Profession of independence and liberty, and to enclose its members securely in an economic compound.

The group of organized nurses to which we have referred intend, at an early date, to issue a clearly defined schedule of their claims and policy, and a *résumé* of their economic struggle might well be included for the information of our legislators.

In a few months' time trained nurses will be Citizens of the Empire, and they must be ready, with clearly defined demands for the organization of their profession by the State, as soon as Parliament feels justified in introducing social legislation.

For the moment we offer our congratulations to the Royal British Nurses' Association on having had the courage and wisdom to withdraw from a thoroughly untenable position.

We learn, on good authority, that the College of Nursing, Ltd., is attempting to influence one of our Government Departments to bring in a Nurses' Registration Bill, on the lines of that drawn up by its Council. How far social influence may be able to accomplish this we are unable to say, but, as such a Bill would be of a highly controversial character, and

would be opposed tooth and nail by the genuine State Registration party, it is presumable that our overstrained Leader of the House of Commons will take good care that no such undemocratic legislation is attempted during the war.

### OUR PRIZE COMPETITION.

DESCRIBE THE METHODS OF TREATMENT YOU HAVE SEEN USED IN (1) IMPETIGO (2) RINGWORM. WHAT PRECAUTIONS WOULD YOU TAKE IN APPLYING X-RAY TREATMENT FOR THE LATTER?

We have pleasure in awarding the prize this week to Miss Catherine Wright, Dryden Road, Bush Hill Park, Enfield.

#### PRIZE PAPER.

In reviewing the methods of treatment which I have seen in cases of impetigo, the patients have always been children of school age in the infants' and junior departments, attending school until observed by their teacher and brought under medical supervision for exclusion from school until cured, on the grounds of the spread of contagion to the other children in school.

The children affected are usually of an anæmic type, apparently suffering from malnutrition and unhygienic conditions of home life. The face, hands, and other parts of the body are marked by thick incrustations, which spread with rapidity, involving the skin of the head.

The treatment for the head is to cut the hair quite short, especially around the sores. Apply starch poultices until all crusts are removed; one poultice each twelve hours seems to be efficacious. Then an application of ammoniated mercurial ointment, spread on lint, kept in position by a head bandage, and renewed daily, has a speedy curative effect.

For the face, hands, and other parts of the body the crusts are quickly removed by gently bathing with a solution of soda bicarb. 1 in 40, then applying the same ointment, dressings kept in position by bandages, and renewed daily.

The general health must receive attention by cleanliness, fresh air, sufficient sleep, an ample diet of nourishing food, and Parish's Food and cod liver oil three times daily after food.

The child should have his own towel, &c., cups, spoons, exclusively kept apart and marked, to avoid the danger of contagion. The success of the treatment lies in first removing all incrustations from the skin, and the daily application of dressings, and general improved health and hygienic conditions.

*Ringworm.*—The method in these cases begins with exclusion from school. Where the

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