

Association was sufficient to guarantee that she was worthy of honour and esteem."

In May, 1889, *The Hospital* published an anonymous letter suggesting that the members of the British Nurses' Association were "the scum of the nursing profession," stating that "perhaps too late nurses will realize that the public and the authorities of the large Training Schools will indeed know what meaning to attach to the words, 'member of the British Nurses' Association'—namely, a nurse who has taken refuge in it to obtain pseudo-respectability, because she could not get it elsewhere," and finally regretting "very much to hear that any Institutions have shown so little regard for their Nurses' true welfare as not to have used every effort in their power to prevent their joining so hurtful an Association."

When Mr. (now Sir Henry) Burdett's attention was called to these statements, he replied he considered them "only a fair criticism."

The Hospital also went so far as to suggest that the managers of Hospitals and Nursing Institutions throughout the country should "enact that no member of their Staff shall become a member of the new Association," a tyrannical policy many of them adopted. If the members of the British Nurses' Association in those days were regarded as "worthy of honour and esteem," it was not due to the influence of the "honed pen" of the editor of *The Hospital*, who insulted them in every issue.

THE "SUPPRESS" PRESS.

We learn that much indignation has been aroused amongst her friends by the action of the *Times* newspaper in suppressing the reply of Dame Furse, late Commandant-in-Chief of the V.A.D.s, in answer to the "sledge-hammer" attack upon her, signed by the Hon. Sir Arthur Stanley and Viscount Chilston, which appeared in large print in its columns, following upon her resignation.

Trained nurses, who are genuine State Registrationists, have been subjected to this most unfair treatment by the Northcliffe Press for years, and lately all letters sent to the *Times*, protesting against Lady Cowdray's appeal for charity for the "Nation's Nurses," contrary to the indignant protest of the trained nurses' organizations, were suppressed.

The Northcliffe Press, including the *Times*, may consider itself all-powerful and able to crush out the independent opinions of working women, but once we are enfranchised these despotic methods will be attacked with the utmost vigour. It is high time that the Continental Press Law which requires any paper publishing matter concerning a movement, society or persons, to devote an equal portion of space for the reply of those criticised. Why not agitate for it?

V.A.D.S REQUIRED.

The Hon. Sir Arthur Stanley, Chairman, Central Joint V.A.D. Committee, appeals through the press for women to offer their services for nursing and general service members, cooks, assistant cooks, kitchenmaids, ward-maids and housemaids. He states that: "Amendments to the Army Council Instruction which deals with General Service V.A.D. workers have been submitted to the military authorities. Co-ordination in both hospital and convalescent treatment for all V.A.D.s is now near realization; a central non-residential club for all V.A.D.s in uniform is shortly to be opened; the red efficiency stripe is to be given to specially selected military probationers and Voluntary Aid Detachment members in all war hospitals; and V.A.D. members who have gained the red efficiency stripe will be given responsible duties accordingly. This concession, which we have so long been urging the military authorities to grant, will greatly improve the status of our V.A.D. workers in military hospitals."

THE ORDER OF THE BRITISH EMPIRE.

The King's appointments to the new Orders of the Companions of Honour and of the British Empire, appeared on Tuesday as part of the New Year's honours. Fifteen-hundred persons are included. Queen Alexandra becomes a Dame Grand Cross; and there are 76 new Knights and 20 Dames. Amongst those thus recognised as having done work of Imperial value are no Trained Nurses, although hundreds of Red Cross Commandants, titled women "administrators," of "gift" and voluntary aid hospitals, and V.A.D.s, are included in the list. The "Nation's Nurses," degraded to a "pauper caste" by the joint action of the British Women's Hospital Committee and the College of Nursing Company, will learn with little surprise that Mrs. Ben Webster (Miss May Whitty), the Chairman of the B.W.H.C., has been created a Dame of the Order. As advised by the Hon. Albinia Brodrick, we poor outcasts, the "Nation's Nurses," must behave with becoming humility if we are to be saved from admission to the workhouse by public charity administered by Dame Webster.

We wonder when the Nursing Profession will rise *en masse* against the indignity to which it is being subjected in connection with this war.

AT A RED-CROSS EXAMINATION.

"How would you prepare a sitz bath?"

"Fill the tub with warm water, and as much sitz as the doctor recommends, the amount of sitz to depend on size of patient."

The foregoing brings to mind the great moment in the life of Archimedes. The amount of sitz gave him the key to a perplexing question.

B. L. T. in *Chicago Tribune*.

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