

they chose, the while being under the disciplinary control of those responsible for their financial support, and in no way responsible to any voluntary outside body—nominated and set up without their consent. We advise those Bart.'s probationers who have worked faithfully for a Bart.'s certificate, and who do not wish to join the College of Nursing, Ltd., to place this point of view before the Matron with the request that it may be brought to the notice of the Committee through the right official source, who, let us hope, will see the justice of their claim. The Nursing School Certificate should represent the hall-mark of nursing efficiency, until such time as it is superseded by a State Diploma of Nursing, registerable by Statutory Authority—a system known as State Registration—as provided for midwives by the Midwives Acts.—ED.]

#### NO CAUSE FOR ALARM.

In reply to enquiries at St. Bartholomew's Hospital, Miss Breay, the Hon. Secretary of the Society for the State Registration of Trained Nurses, has received the following reply from Mr. Thomas Hayes, the Clerk to the Governors:—

St. Bartholomew's Hospital,  
6th May, 1918.

MISS MARGARET BREAY,  
Hon. Secretary,

Society for the State Registration of  
Trained Nurses, 431, Oxford Street, W. 1

DEAR MADAM,—I have your enquiry of the 4th instant and can only say that I have no knowledge of the rumour to which you refer.

The training of probationers here, is, as it always has been, under the direction of the Governors of the Hospital and the examinations for certificates will continue as hitherto to be conducted by the officially appointed "Instructors of Probationary Nurses" and the Matron.

I am, yours faithfully,

THOMAS HAYES,  
Clerk to the Governors.

#### LEICESTER ROYAL INFIRMARY NURSES' LEAGUE.

To the Editor of THE BRITISH JOURNAL OF NURSING.

DEAR MADAM.—I have to thank Miss E. G. Waldron, the Hon. Secretary of the Leicester Royal Infirmary Nurses' League, for the information contained in her letter, published last week, and the Editor for her remarks thereon.

May I be permitted to express the opinion of a humble member of the Leicester League that before new members of the League, like Miss Vincent, propose resolutions calculated to undermine the principles upon which we founded our League, that she should at least acquaint herself with its past history and proceedings, as from Miss Waldron's letter Miss Vincent does not apparently know the difference between the National Council of Trained Nurses of Great Britain and Ireland,

and the Society for the State Registration of Trained Nurses, neither, presumably, does she care. Both societies are entirely composed of trained nurses, and stand as they have done for years, for the direct representation of the nurses themselves, on any governing body authorised by Act of Parliament, and it is this fundamental principle which the College of Nursing Ltd., has ignored both in its present nominated Council and in the Bill it has drafted, and for which Miss Vincent as a member of the College Council is partly responsible. If Miss Vincent succeeds in depriving our League of representation on the Society for the State Registration of Trained Nurses, I repeat that she will prevent "our continuing to support our own Bill."

Miss Waldron writes:—"Many of the League members have joined the College." Of course they have, and wherever the Matron of a Training School has been nominated to a seat on the College Council, the young nurses under her authority and whose professional promotion depends upon her, will "join the College"—that is human nature. How many of these members of our League have copies of the Articles and Memorandum of the College, and who has explained its dangerously coercive constitution to them? I wonder.

Again, at a recent meeting held at the Royal Infirmary, Leicester, to expound the benefits of the College and the Nation's Fund for Nurses, was any professional person invited to explain the other side to the nurses?

I doubt it.

The time is past when dukes and actresses combined can thrust charity and unsound legislation upon us. What do either class know about our special work and needs? Nothing.

In conclusion, I agree with you that we must not make a pusillanimous peace, and find ourselves professionally in a position of economic dependence. Rather let us keep faith with our trusted leaders, such as the founder and President of our League, and not go a-worshipping false gods.

Yours very truly,

"A MEMBER OF THE LEICESTER LEAGUE."

#### OUR PRIZE COMPETITION.

##### QUESTION.

May 18th.—What are the essential points in the nursing of a case of cut throat, and what complications should you be on the look out for?

May 25th.—Give the symptoms and treatment of acute gastro-enteritis in a child of one year. Detail the preparation of the diet during all stages of the illness.

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