

sion." Miss Darbyshire approves of the methods of appeal by the British Women's Hospital Committee—we presume not of its tactics in subsidising the Press by paying for columns of advertisements, and the abominable injustice of the consequent boycott of professional opinion by their Editors.

Miss Darbyshire continues:—"I have been a Matron for more than ten years, and I, with many of my colleagues, have longed most ardently for the day to dawn when we shall see the better education of our Nurses placed on a footing equal to that of other professions."

Miss Brodrick, most public-spirited of women, might well ask Miss Darbyshire, in this connection, why she and "her colleagues" persistently opposed for years, by every means in their power, the organization of Nursing Education in England, by State Authority; why she signed Manifestoes against the State Registration of Nurses in which it was stated: "We believe that any system of State Registration would be detrimental to the public, and harmful to the best Nurses themselves"; and further:

"A State Register of Nurses, far from being a security to the public, would be an actual source of danger."

Now because a few "aristocrats" find they cannot govern the nursing profession without the authority of Parliament, and have drafted a Bill for this purpose in connection with the College of Nursing, Ltd., we find Miss Darbyshire entirely converted to the *principles* so dangerous and pernicious so long as they were advocated by her more intelligent and progressive fellow-nurses.

Miss Darbyshire continues:—"To my mind Miss Brodrick's address is revolting, and to see it reprinted in the *Nurses' Journal for India* deplorable."

The broadminded Editor of the Journal replies with dignity:—"The article appealed to me for the principles which underlie the somewhat extravagant language, the principles of democracy, comradeship, and organization.

"Granted that the 'aristocrats' and 'actresses' are seeking the good of the whole nursing profession, and that a public Fund for nurses has been inaugurated, it is not by these methods that true success will be obtained."

The only hope is in self-determination. Patronage is a poor substitute for prestige.

The address alluded to is entitled "Professional Development and Organization."

OUTSIDE THE GATES.

We hope the very important question of a Ministry of Health is not going to be shelved. We do not like the announcement made by Lord Curzon in the House of Lords on Wednesday. He said: "The postponement of the establishment of a Ministry of Health was not due to any congestion of the work of the Cabinet, but to the fact that the question raised most acute and deep-seated differences between the Departments concerned."

THE BRITISH LION LASHING HIS TAIL.

The public are at last letting themselves go in print and speech on the treatment of Germans in our midst. They realise that it is bad blood which counts, and that naturalisation and assumed names do not count for a row of pins where these demoralised people are concerned. Men, women and children, from highest to lowest, naturalised and unnaturalised, should be interned till the end of the war, and then deported to the country which bred them. That is the demand which the public are making, and which they have only to follow up by action to have enforced.

When a Britisher may not knock down a Hun who spits in his face, without a fine; when working people are unable to get a scuttle of coals when a German can obtain upwards of 625 tons for the heating of his princely mansion and growth, out of season, of costly fruit and flowers; when the wives of Government officials may pet Hun prisoners, and these same bounders be provided with £350 worth of wine; when the cowardly crew scuttling from the bombs of their brother Boches are permitted to buy land, open shops, steal the businesses of our men at the front, turn British gentlewomen out of first-class carriages, and peep, poke, spy and communicate with the enemy, it is high time the people gave the Government orders to stop this scandal, or we will take it in hand ourselves and see it through.

GERMAN HOSPITAL MATRON.

Colonel Staveley-Hill, on the 14th inst., asked the Home Secretary why Helwig Retburg, an unnaturalised German, is still retained as Matron at the cottage hospital at Devizes. Her retention he said, causes dissatisfaction among the patients and the inhabitants of the district.

Mr. Brace replied: This woman has resided in this country for 21 years and has been Matron at the hospital since 1911. The chief constable of the county has no reason to think her presence causes dissatisfaction. On the contrary, patients speak highly of her. Both the committee of the hospital and the local doctors express complete confidence in her.

This is not the question, but that no German should hold a hospital office during this murder campaign, whilst her countrymen bomb our hospitals and kill our nurses, doctors and helpless patients in cold blood.

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