

be placed on the State Register, and that we poor things outside that privileged set would have to pass an examination before we could have that privilege. This has fallen through.

2. We were startled by seeing the title, "Royal British College of Nursing," and were told that they had amalgamated with the R.B.N.A. This also has fallen through.

3. A one-portal system, which is contradicted in their Articles of Association, accepting certain certificates in place of an exam.

Now we are faced with a "Nation's Fund for Nurses," which, interpreted, is a Nation's Fund to establish a College for Nurses which the majority of nurses do not want. Be not deceived, we must pay our guineas before we can be beneficiaries. A Nation's Fund for Nurses should be in the hands of a neutral committee, and the Nation's Nurses should benefit, not a clique.

Surely it is only "proposed" until it is established. Let us hope it will not be a little South Sea Bubble.

Yours truly,  
PERPLEXED.

Glasgow.

[We regret we are unable to reply to these questions. We advise our correspondent to write to the Secretary of the College.—ED.]

#### A MISLEADING STATEMENT.

To the Editor of THE BRITISH JOURNAL OF NURSING.

DEAR MADAM,—May I draw the attention of Irish Nurses outside the Emerald Isle to a misleading statement which is being widely promulgated by certain Matron members of the Council of the College of Nursing, Ltd. Irish Nurses are being told that, unless they register with the College Company, they will get no work outside Ireland, and that they will not be eligible for the State Register when a Bill for Nurses' Registration is passed.

*This is not true.*

Well-trained Irish Nurses, holding a three years' certificate, are eligible for every Government Service in the United Kingdom, and are eagerly employed by Q.V.J.I. as School Nurses, Health Visitors, &c.; and should the Matrons-in-Chief or other officials disqualify them, or coerce them into joining the College before accepting them for Government Service, they are using their authority quite illegally; and Irish Nurses so coerced should at once take means to expose this tyranny. Prominent officials in the Nation's Service—such as the Matrons-in-Chief of the Military and Naval Services, Inspectors in the Civil Service, and others—should not be permitted to take office on the Council of a Limited Liability Company formed to control the economic conditions of the rank and file of the nursing profession, who may also be under their authority in a Government Department.

I notice that Miss Sidney Browne, Matron-in-Chief of the Territorial Force Nursing Service, has lately been *nominated* a member of the College

Council, and as a member of the Service I am of opinion that whilst this acute struggle for justice and independence between the rank and file and their employers is daily becoming more emphatic, our Senior Officer (a salaried servant of the State, as we are), should not be permitted to take sides against us in this fight for independence. Irish nurses would do well to present this point of view to their Members of Parliament:

The Privy Council has recently, by substituting the word "an" for "the," declined to permit a monopoly of power by the proposed "Royal British College of Nursing" over the whole nursing profession, and no doubt Parliament will also frustrate any attempt to hand over the absolute government of 60,000 women workers to their employers, the hospital managers, and their "forewomen"—as Miss Eden aptly calls the College Matrons—when a Nurses' Registration Bill is passed.

Let me urge Irish Nurses to carefully conserve their professional and *national* independence, and see to it that they are not governed from London by hospital officials who have nothing whatever to do with their control in any way, or by their nominees in Ireland.

All reliable information on nursing politics can be obtained from the Irish Nurses' Association, 34, St. Stephen's Green, Dublin.

Yours very sincerely,  
AN IRISH MEMBER OF THE T.F.N.S.

#### OUT OF THE RUNNING.

To the Editor of THE BRITISH JOURNAL OF NURSING.

DEAR MADAM,—Though married I have never lost interest in the welfare and progress of my old training school, and I have often wondered why "Bart's" Nurses never get good hospital appointments in these days. Their practical training used to be second to none. This is a question of interest to those entering for training and needs consideration by the Committee if the prestige of the school is not to become a negligible quantity.

Yours truly,  
ANOTHER MEMBER OF BART'S LEAGUE.

[Unless candidates for the plums and best paid professional positions are pushed, preferably from their Schools, they have little chance of promotion. The London and St. Thomas's Hospitals usually have a candidate in the field, and their nominees are so highly and tenaciously recommended that their credentials naturally attract consideration. We cannot learn from St. Bartholomew's Hospital that either the Treasurer or Matron encourages its graduates with the same amount of personal support in their efforts for promotion.—ED.]

#### OUR PRIZE COMPETITION.

##### QUESTION.

January 19th.—Describe the apparatus required and method employed for (a) Washing out the stomach, (b) Washing out the bladder.

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