

Miss Jane McNeillie writes: The part affected should have perfect rest. Cold applications should be avoided as they are apt to produce metastasis. Astringent lotions should be used tepid, as also antiseptic solutions.

Miss Theodosia Meade writes: When the mouth and throat are affected, mouth washes and gargles of Condy's fluid, boracic, or Listerine should be used frequently. Disinfection of the patient's room and everything in it must be carefully carried out at the end of the case. The nurse must keep covered any abrasions she may have on her hands, and not touch her eyes or face before she has disinfected her hands after attending the patient.

Miss E. M. Onions says: If the head is affected it is advisable to cut the hair or even shave the head, or at any rate the diseased area.

HONOURABLE MENTION.

The following competitors receive honourable mention:—Miss Theodosia Meade, Miss Margaret Tustain, Miss Elsie Wharton, Miss A. M. M. Cullen, Miss Jane McNeillie, Miss E. M. Onions, Miss E. A. Noblett, Miss E. O. Walford, Miss M. F. Waugh, Miss May Arney, and Miss Mabel Halkett.

QUESTION FOR NEXT WEEK.

Give the nursing treatment of a child, aged six years, with diphtheria. Mention the complications which may arise?

THE NURSES' REGISTRATION BILL.

GOOD FORTUNE IN THE BALLOT.

When it became known last week that the Government intended to restore to unofficial members of the House of Commons the right to introduce Bills—a privilege of which they have been deprived during the war—hope sprang eternal in the breasts of those who for fourteen Sessions have been working in the Lobby in support of the State Registration of Nurses, as embodied in the Central Committee's Bill. Kind friends who have backed the Bill were approached and asked to ballot for it on Monday last—and to give it a place if they were successful—and several promises of support were given. Over 200 members participated in the ballot, and when it became known that Captain Barnett, one of the backers of our Bill, had drawn fourth place, and that, in fact, owing

to extreme good fortune, he was actually, if he chose, to have first place, and that he intended to introduce the Central Committee's Bill for the State Registration of Nurses, the joy of its promoters may be imagined. The telephone conveyed the glorious news far and wide amongst friends, and several attended in the Lobby of the House on Tuesday, when the Bill was introduced. Captain Barnett had a choice of dates for the second reading, and he has put down the Bill to be read a second time on Friday, March 28th—a fateful date indeed—before which all convinced Registrationists must have done their part to impress upon the Member of the constituency in which they reside, the national importance of the measure, and have invited him to be in his place on the 28th, to give his support to a measure which will, more than anything else in the world, advance the profession of Nursing, and in consequence, contribute immeasurably to the benefit of the public, in providing sufficient highly skilled trained nurses of standard quality.

Never before in all the weary fourteen years of work have the Fates smiled so benevolently upon this great cause, and it is an astounding bit of good luck that so well-informed and warm a friend as Captain Barnett has practically drawn first place in the ballot, as only those who can secure an early date for a second reading can hope to have a Bill become law.

The Nurses' Registration Bill—thanks to the statesmanship of Lord Amphill—passed the House of Lords without a division at any stage, and with the kindest consideration, in 1908.

When brought into the House of Commons under the ten minutes rule by Dr. Chapple in 1914, it passed a contested first reading by a majority of 228—composed of members of every Party in the House, no less than twenty-three members of the Ministry recording their vote in its favour—and now, after five years of hope deferred, the time has come when the representatives of the People will have an opportunity of proving the sincerity of the many expressions of appreciation of, and gratitude to, the Trained Nurses of the United Kingdom, for the great services which they have rendered to the sick and wounded during the war.

The Nurses' Bill has been very influentially backed by members of every Party, and now that the principle of State Registration has been accepted by all those, with negligible exceptions, who formerly objected to it, there is no excuse for opposing it. Now is the time for the burying of war hatchets, and for unanimity in nursing ranks, so that all may share in the triumph of victory.

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