

The writer is evidently actuated, not so much with a desire to express her opinion with regard to the Nurses' Registration Bill as to make a spiteful thrust at the College of Nursing, Ltd. I would ask her to read the seventh draft of the Bill of the College and to notice Section 7, then to tell me if anything could be more "openly and honourably stated . . . and set out in black and white" than this statement with regard to the provision for establishing the first "General Nursing Council." Perhaps at the same time she would note the fairness shown in the number of members assigned to the Central Committee in comparison to the number assigned to the College of Nursing, Ltd., by the Central Committee in their Bill.

I fear that the writer and other plain people like her (to use her own words) are rather devoid of understanding, or are pleased to put truth in the background in order to emphasise their own point of view. As a fairminded woman and a member of the College I protest against the writer's reference to the methods of the Council of the College of Nursing, as being "slim."

Perhaps "A Lifelong Registrationist" will explain exactly what she means by this expression.

I am, yours faithfully,

A MEMBER OF THE COLLEGE OF NURSING, LTD.

[We feel sure "A Lifelong Registrationist" in her reply will prove that she has not "put truth in the background," and that she is not "devoid of understanding."—Ed.]

KERNELS FROM CORRESPONDENCE.

Hospital Nurse: "Yesterday Matron had all the staff assembled for the purpose of filling in and signing a huge form petitioning against the 'huge fee' (£2 2s.) demanded by the Nurses' Registration Bill, so I gather from that that the College of Nursing has its own secret workings. I did not sign, and Matron was very annoyed with me. Preparations on a large scale are in full swing for the coming Nurses' Day. *Poor Nurses!*"

Staff Nurse: "Not one nurse in this hospital signed Miss Dalton's inaccurate Petition. B.J.N. arrived just in time to prevent us (had we wished to) making fools of ourselves. But why are Matrons permitted to make fools of us? Surely our Matron should have taken the trouble to read the Nurses' Registration Bill before inviting us to petition against a provision which did not exist! I hear of hundreds of 'woolly sheep' in other hospitals who have petitioned against this myth. The whole thing is a got-up job to injure the Bill."

Sick of Tyranny: "May I suggest that if the College Matrons prevent us getting State Registration we all go on strike until we *do* get it?"

[We do not think there is any fear of Parliament going back on the Second Reading of our Bill, but nurses will do well to make themselves heard. The Training Schools have obstructed this reform for fifteen years in the House of Commons—a very

scandalous proceeding and further obstruction must be met with decided action.—Ed.]

Irish Poor Law Matron writes:—"I think many Matrons who do *not* approve of the College Constitution have joined. I have been invited to do so in these specious words: 'Oh! if you don't approve, come along and try and put things straight.' Weak people may do so, but I feel strongly that we shall do more good standing firmly for our principles outside, especially as apparently the Matrons have so little power 'to put things straight' with such a powerful male Executive. That is why I am in favour of the N.U.T.N.; the Nurses form the Union and manage their own affairs. If nurses have to form a trades union, it is the College Executive which will have compelled them to do so. Many nurses distrust it profoundly."

C. B. M.: "It is a shame that only V.A.*D.s have been publicly thanked by the Army Council, but I suppose the old principle that 'good wine needs no bush' is applicable to the real nurses, though they ought all to have the R.R.C. had that decoration not so depreciated in value. As long as they don't make them O.B.E., be *thankful*."

Superintendent: "I was trying on hats and had an amusing experience. A grey-haired old lady near by, tried on a dozen garish and unbecoming, and prepared to depart without making a selection. I overheard the following remark from the irate saleswoman: 'She should wear a poke bonnet.' 'Why don't you provide them,' the ancient dame replied, who also overheard the remark."

[Nothing is more difficult than getting a becoming hat for the old in these days. Mde. Mills, 296, Regent Street, seems to provide hats to suit all ages. She also has attractive bonnets.—Ed.]

OUR PRIZE COMPETITION.

QUESTIONS.

May 10th.—State what you know about Parasitic Worms of the Intestines. How are they treated?

May 17th.—Mention drugs which may produce rashes, and describe the rashes.

May 24th.—What is the duty of a private nurse who has been exposed to the infection of (1) scarlet fever, (2) diphtheria, (3) mumps before proceeding to another case?

May 31st.—What advice would you give, as a midwife, to a patient in danger of losing her flow of milk? Supposing that she is unable to feed her infant, what alternative feeding would you suggest?

OUR ADVERTISERS.

Do not omit to buy, as far as possible, everything you need from "Our Advertisers," and to recommend them to your friends. They are all first-class firms.

[previous page](#)

[next page](#)