

STATE REGISTRATION UP-TO-DATE.

Parliament will re-assemble on October 23rd, and then we shall have State Registration on the *tapis* again.

It is to be hoped that the Ministry of Health is drafting its Bill, so that the Central Committee, and other nurses' organisations may give considered thought to this vitally important question. The lack of status and protection for nurses in Britain has now become a world-wide scandal. We want to see the Bill on the Statute Book this session.

TRUE TALES WITH A MORAL.

Recently in Marylebone Road we were struggling to get into a mackintosh coat in a gust of wind and rain. There came along a pleasant looking V.A.D.

"Can I help you?" she said

We accepted help gratefully and then we walked on together.

This nice pleasant woman talked of her work during the war, and wore with pride her Red Cross Medal.

"And what are you going to do now?" we asked.

"Oh! now I am doing private nursing—you see I kept myself through the war, and my people can't afford to keep me in idleness. I have had some very good cases, the doctors are so kind."

"But" we asked, "Do you think that is fair to the trained nurses?"

"I don't injure them," she replied emphatically, "I only ask two guineas a week, and they get three."

"Or they don't get it" we said. Then we conversed on nursing economics, but lack-a-day, we fear to little purpose.

Doctors, please ponder on this true little tale.

QUEEN MARY'S HOSTEL FOR NURSES.

Queen Mary's Hostel for Nurses, until recently located in Russell and Bedford Place, is now on the point of being re-opened in charming new premises at 94, Queen's Gate. A more fortunate situation could hardly have been chosen, closely abutting as it does on the Park, providing as it will a delightful source of rest and recreation to the hostel guests. The quiet of the neighbourhood will also be much appreciated by overstrained nurses. The house itself is well suited to its purpose. The corridors are light and well-ventilated and the rooms spacious and lofty. The passages all distempered throughout with oyster white with a dado of heavily embossed white paper. On the ground floor is a cosy writing-room where the guests can do their correspondence and receive their visitors.

The dining room on the same floor is to be furnished with small tables, thus averting anything like institutional arrangement. On the first floor is the bright sunny drawing room, with its plenti-

tude of easy chairs and couches upholstered in blue tapestry shot with rose colour; the polished floor has blue hair mats. The bedrooms, varying in shape and size, are in some cases to accommodate four guests, and are provided with pretty screens draped in charming chintzes which will secure the necessary privacy. Some fortunate individuals will have the privilege of a room to themselves, and there was one charming little room which will be much coveted.

The bathrooms are desirable and well appointed. Tired nurses will not have to toil up the stairs to their rooms, for there is an electric lift, which is not only easily worked but is quite safe even for the inexperienced to manipulate.

Hitherto these hostels have been for the benefit of military nurses on leave only, but under the altered conditions the claims of civilian nurses are to be considered.

After careful consideration the Committee have decided to give the preference to the Queen's Jubilee Nurses, who have rendered such invaluable and unostentatious service during the war, but as the demobilization of the military nurses proceeds the privilege to civilian nurses will be extended in other directions.

One often hears of town-worn workers needing country air, but the claims of workers in the rural districts are not so often considered. To many a nurse buried in the country and depressed by the monotony of her life, a holiday in this delightful home will be a real godsend.

The hospitality is free to all successful applicants, so that money saved for a hard earned holiday can be spent in the rare delight of theatres and concerts.

It need hardly be said that the Hostel is not intended for the more fortunate who have means at their disposal for making holiday. Application is made to the lady superintendent, Miss Bankhead, through the head of the particular branch to which the applicant belongs, and each case is decided on its merits.

These Hostels are supported by private donations and by a grant from the British Red Cross.

We congratulate the Committee on giving preference to Queen's Nurses, and in its choice of the Lady Superintendent, who, at the Russell Square Hostel, had the welfare and happiness of her guests so much at heart. H. H.

A BELATED REPORT.

The Nation's Fund for Nurses has now been advertising for money for this "war charity" in the public press for two years. So far the audited accounts of its receipts and expenditure have not been submitted to the public. The nursing profession which is of opinion that this long continued charitable appeal upon its behalf is calculated to injure its prestige and economic stability, has a right to know how the money is being expended. We call once more on Lady Cowdray, the Hon. Treasurer of the Fund, to issue a financial report.

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