

Hospital Sister: "I have a friend, a Sister at the London Hospital, and she told me with conviction soon after our Bill went through its second reading, 'It has been arranged your Bill is to be "netted" in the House of Lords—but it will never be permitted to pass the House of Commons—that is all arranged.' 'Who by?' I asked. 'Oh! that's telling,' she replied."

[Lord Knutsford made no secret in either Lobby of his determination to help wreck the Bill. He was quite open about it. But not so those associated with him. The incorporation of the College Company by Act of Parliament answers the purpose of the anti-registration employer quite effectively.—Ed.]

A Citizen Nurse:—"I wonder if the nurses who have joined the College have ever heard of Magna Charta? I doubt it! So long ago as the year 1215 the peers insisted on the right of every freeman to a trial, and Magna Charta was signed, and now in the year 1919 women—many of them enjoying full citizenship—are so ignorant and apathetic that they actually sign an agreement with the Council of the College of Nursing, Ltd., to have their names removed from membership without trial or right of appeal. It would be incredible if thousands of nurses had not proved themselves unworthy of their citizenship by signing the agreement. I agree with you that only tyrants could draft such a constitution, and it is only those who have no more sense than to submit to it who are being used to deprive us of our professional Magna Charta—our Registration Bill."

F.F.N.C. Sister:—"My blood boils. After four years' work in France, doing national work by helping sick and wounded Allies, I come home to find the College has practically wrecked our splendid Bill. Shame upon Manchester men for acting as its tools! In my youth a 'Manchester man' was looked upon as a man of honour. Politics seem poisonous."

Trained Nurse:—"Is it usual for a Secretary of a Nurses' Society to grant an 'audience' a week hence, after a written request? It seems more difficult to see the Secretary of the College of Nursing than a Cabinet Minister."

Staff Nurse: "I have not a penny-piece except what I earn, and never a five pound note between me and perdition. You can't expect this class of pauper to be very keen to come into collision with their present paymasters. 'Best say nothing' is our motto."

Private Nurse: "Surely we private nurses will not be obliged to re-enter insurance if the proposed substitution of £250 limit for the previous limit of £160 is carried. Seven-and-sixpence is no good to us, and only causes endless annoyance. When I had to be insured I paid the 6d. weekly myself; nothing will induce me to beg for 3d. a week from patients; it cuts at the root of our professional status and places us on the level of untrained domestic workers."

A Queen's Nurse writes:—"What is going to be done to do justice to thoroughly trained district Nurses? After a short course of training, including a period in a Children's Hospital, given gratis from Red Cross Funds, V.A.D.'s are promised salaries as health visitors, from £150 upwards, an assistant health visitor from £100 upwards. I hold a three years' certificate of training from a general hospital and special training in district nursing. I paid £20 for my midwifery training and £1 is. for examination by Central Midwives' Board, and for years past I have been paid £40 a year, a poor lodging and not very generous board. I recently applied for a secretarial post in connection with infant welfare work, to which a salary of £200 a year was attached, and was told I must become an expert typist in addition to my other professional qualifications. Ultimately the post was given to a young clerical worker, who did not know whether or no an operation for hysterectomy could or could not be performed on a man!

"If the Nation's Fund for Nurses can get a few thousands out of the public I am to have my salary raised to £50 by means of this charity dole. What is the new Ministry of Health going to do? Employ thoroughly trained nurses at a living wage—or amateurs at 'profiteer' prices? Everything is most unjust for trained Nurses—why have any?"

[Trained Nurses must claim a self-supporting salary free from "charity doles." The poor are keenly alive to the benefit of nursing knowledge and skill. The system and patronage which so largely inspires district nursing associations, and for which "patrons" will not pay a sufficient remuneration, needs readjustment. District Nurses have no self-governing organisation as they should have, but have been "guided" into the College compound—and the economic gate barred on the outside. A well-reasoned case placed before the Ministry of Health might do good.—Ed.]

INFORMATION REQUIRED.

Will any nurse who can give any information about Lance-Corporal George William Wright, 51015, 9th Cheshire Regiment, 19th Division, 57th Brigade, who was last heard of on the St. Quentin front, and reported missing on March 27th, 1918, please communicate with his wife, Mrs. Wright, 94, Edward Street, Nuneaton, or with Nurse E. Ford, 116, Corporation Street, Nuneaton.

OUR PRIZE COMPETITION.

QUESTIONS.

July 19th.—How would you treat (a) an extensive superficial burn, (b) a ruptured varicose vein?

July 26th.—How would you treat (1) *asphyxia livida*, and (2) *asphyxia pallida* in the newly-born infant?

[previous page](#)

[next page](#)