

it is returned the better, and utilised for the benefit of the sick and wounded—thousands of whom have been broken physically and financially in the war—for whom, we suppose, the money was originally subscribed. It is up to the Joint War Committee to explain this matter, and that without delay.

We believe the gratuity for a principal matron is only £45, for a Q.A.I.N.S. nurse £40, and for a temporary nurse £20 for the first year and 10s. a month for subsequent years. Compare this with the £900 grant to a V.A.D.! No wonder comparisons are odious to the trained nurse!

NURSES NEED MAGNA CHARTA TOO.

The agitation for an inquiry into the dismissal of the Hon. Violet Douglas Pennant, Lord Penrhyn's daughter, from the position of Commandant of the Women's Royal Air Force, increases in volume, and is assuming national importance. Magna Charta has been appealed to in this case in the House of Lords in referring to the right of every person to a fair trial. But how about the War Office and the "Serf Clause" every nurse had to sign before being granted a paltry extra £20 of salary? Not much Magna Charta where nurses are concerned! But we fear they have themselves to blame for accepting such terms of service.

THE BRITISH MEDICAL ASSOCIATION OPPOSES A DOCTORS' TRADE UNION.

At the Annual Representative Meeting of the British Medical Association, held last week in London, the question whether doctors should join a trade union was discussed on a recommendation from Bournemouth that the Association should not endeavour to prevent members of the Association from joining any other body which was attempting to combine the profession on trade union lines.

Members spoke for and against, and ultimately the resolution was defeated by 75 to 17.

THE ROYAL SANITARY INSTITUTE CONGRESS AT NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.

The thirtieth Congress of the Royal Sanitary Institute is this week being held at Newcastle-on-Tyne, and covers a wide range of subjects—dealt with by many distinguished speakers—including the Rat Problem, Treatment and Prophylaxis of Venereal Diseases, Housing and Town Planning, Housing Schemes and the Adoption of Combined Heating and Hot Water Supply, The Unmarried Mother and Her Child, The Organization of Ante-Natal Hygiene.

The various aspects of Personal and Domestic Hygiene and Industrial Hygiene occupied the attention of two sections on Tuesday and Wednesday, and Sanitary Authorities and Medical Officers of Health discussed many interesting questions, including that of Municipal versus Voluntary Hospitals. One day was devoted by Conference VI to the various aspects of the work of Health Visitors. A Maternity and Child Welfare Exhibition is one of the attractions of the Congress.

KERNELS FROM CORRESPONDENCE.

Midland Hospital Matron writes:—"I do not desire to minimise the injury done to the whole nursing profession by the Manchester members, in carrying out the College policy to wreck the Nurses' Registration Bill this Session, nor to dispute that your description of the Council as the 'Wrecking Council' is correct, but a friend of mine whose name appears in the list knew nothing about the letter sent to the College nurses advising them to help wreck the Bill. She lives some distance from London and cannot attend many meetings. This friend is a genuine registrationist."

[It is well known that the policy of the College is controlled by the Hon. Officers, and three of the more reactionary and autocratic Matrons, and that these people dominate the situation. But every person who accepts office on the Council is responsible for its actions. We can quite believe that some of the members of the College Council would have hesitated to wreck the Bill and deprive the nurses and the public of protection, had they been consulted. The irreconcilable clique who dominate the whole College management are well known, and their attempt to suppress liberty of thought and action throughout the profession is now a well-recognised danger, which the profession at large intends to resist strenuously.—E.D.]

Candidate for Private Nursing:—"I should like to join your co-operation very much. I was amused to hear you say 'the nurses on this staff are treated like grown-up women, not like doll babies. The work is very responsible; don't join unless you have got beyond the age of a pap-boat.'"

A Nurse of Long Experience: "Why is it that some of the heads of the big training schools, and some of the influential people, and some of the British public do not want the nurses to be treated justly? I am quite sure Florence Nightingale would, if she could be present in the Lobby at the House of Commons; vote for justice."

We regret that owing to a clerical error in our last issue, Dr. McGregor Robertson was referred to as President of the Scottish Nurses' Association, a position held, of course, by Mrs. Strong. Dr. Robertson, who was elected a Vice-President of the Society for the State Registration of Trained Nurses at the Annual Meeting, and has honoured it by accepting office, is Chairman of the Executive of the Scottish Nurses' Association.

OUR PRIZE COMPETITION.

QUESTIONS.

August 2nd.—What are the signs and symptoms of gall stones? What instruments would you have ready for the operation? How would you nurse a case after operation?

August 9th.—What are the principal emetics and in what cases are they used?

August 16th.—What is meant by "descent of the cord" and what complications and difficulties does this create?

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