

*Miss Lucy Morris, Wimbledon.*—I am not in favour of nurses being included in the Hours of Employment Bill. It would spell ruin to private nurses. We have always managed our on and off duty time, and why interfere with our privilege of taking care of the sick and suffering? We want no Union that might lead to strikes, now that the nursing profession has gained State Registration."

*Miss Lucy Jackson, Parkstone.*—"No! I am not in favour of private nurses being included in the Hours of Employment Bill. 1st: Private nursing has its own trying points, but it is not so laborious or exacting as hospital or institution work. 2nd: Few people can afford two nurses, and one nurse could not leave her patient in unskilled hands for sixteen hours, though an unskilled person will often work very well under explicit instruction for a short time. 3rd: If unskilled persons had to manage for sixteen hours they would feel they could take charge altogether, and think a trained nurse was not necessary. In many ways this legislation is impracticable and I do not think any good nurse could conform to it."

*Miss Constance McCarthy, Hammersmith.*—"It seems to me that the suggestion is absolutely impracticable. I am entirely of the opinion expressed so ably by 'Private Nurse, London,' in B.J.N., of April 3rd."

*Miss Amy Lindsay, Glasgow.*—"I love my nursing; would much rather be in the sick room than out of it—it is the pleasure as well as the duty of my life. To suggest an eight-hour day for private nurses is wicked. Devote yourself to your patient till he is well, then you may rest on your oars, and enjoy rest and recreation. No law shall make me lazy and selfish, if I can evade it."

*Miss Catherine Heron, London.*—"I think an eight hours' day for private nurses quite impracticable; it would mean loss of work."

*Miss Mary O'Donnell, Belfast.*—"Private nursing would be a farce on an eight-hours' basis—it can't be done. But I wish we in Ireland could earn the same fees paid in England. With £3 3s. a week we could save and get more rest between cases."

#### DOWN WITH THE DOLES.

A Scottish Nurse writes:—

"Mrs. Martin Harvey, the irrepressible, has been making more extraordinary statements from the theatre platform in Edinburgh, concerning our Army nurses, this time in support of 'a cottage home for nurses broken in the war.' According to this lady, 'Nurses had contracted tubercular disease of the most agonising kind through nursing our boys, though they knew perfectly well the price they had to pay. They needed such homes as they were promoting that day, and they required all the help they could get.'

"We nurses are now well in the third year of what may be called 'beggary,' as ladies of the dramatic profession, with a smattering of mercantile peeresses and others, opened their campaign

upon our behalf in October, 1917; and our profession has been flaunted in *forma pauperis* day in and day out ever since; it is high time a stop was put to this form of degradation."

*Down with Doles Sister.*—"I note that the arch anti-registrationist, Sir Henry Burdett, in his nursing papers through which he has for years made a huge income out of nursing advertisements, gives the credit to the College of Nursing, Ltd., for obtaining State Registration. After attempting to down the pioneer registrationists for upwards of twenty years in his publications, he would give the credit to the anti-matrons and doctors who largely compose the College Council, and who deprived us of legal status for years. So like him. Anyway, thank God, the College demand to be incorporated in the Act, and thus have power to control the whole nursing profession was not permitted by the Government."

#### PUBLICITY PAYS.

Miss H. Hawkins writes:—

"Evidently publicity in the B.J.N. has saved further members of the London Co-op. from expulsion and professional ruin. Those sacrificed have my warmest sympathy, and I hope they do not intend to suffer in silence. These incorporated societies of the laity to control nurses are a very serious danger; it is high time the Board of Trade ceased handing nurses over to such companies."

#### PLEASE NOTICE.

Orders for extra journals and letters on business matters are constantly being sent to the Editor at 20, Upper Wimpole Street, W. All such letters should be addressed to the Manager, B.J.N. Office, 431, Oxford Street, London, W.1, when they will receive prompt attention.

#### OUR PRIZE COMPETITIONS.

##### QUESTIONS.

*April 10th.*—What is Uræmia? When does it occur? Give the symptoms and general management of this condition.

*April 17th.*—How would you recognise perforation in a case of enteric fever? What immediate action would you take, and how could you temporarily relieve the patient?

*April 24th.*—What is meant by (a) cross infection, and (b) concurrent double infection? How may cross infection arise? What measures are adopted in hospital for its prevention? Give some examples of concurrent double infection.

#### OUR ADVERTISERS.

The Editor wishes to remind readers that all matters of business, advertisements, changes of address, &c, must be sent to the Manager, B.J.N., 431, Oxford Street, London, W. 1.

Editorial matter only should be sent to the Editor, at 20, Upper Wimpole Street, London, W. 1

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