

control of their hospital committees. Yet the Editor of the *Daily Telegraph* attempts to teach the Minister of Health his duty in connection with the selection of the personnel, of the Governing Body for the Nursing profession under the Nurses' Registration Act, and advises him "to recognise in full measure the position of the College." The College Council claimed in its Bill, in the Lords, last Session, absolute power over Registered Nurses, and as the Government were not anxious for mutiny in Nursing ranks, that outrageous demand found no place in the Government Bill.

STORIES OF SACRIFICE.

That the Nurses did their duty nobly during the war—often under most invidious circumstances—dominated by untrained Society Commandants, and plagued to death with untrained and often undisciplined help, no one can deny. But that is no reason for degrading their professional status and economic condition now the time for readjustment and organisation has come.

If there are nurses broken in health it is the duty of the State to classify and care for them—as the American Government has done.

And the organisation of the new Profession of Nursing is the specified duty of the General Nursing Councils set up under the Nurses' Registration Acts—which are to set to work at an early date.

Trained Nurses are quite determined that they will not submit to the interference of the busy-bodies who comprise the "Influential Council" published in the *Daily Telegraph* on January 30th, composed as it is of a motley conglomeration of peeresses, actresses, matrons, titled medicos, and a sprinkling of persons who exploit the nursing profession very successfully by various methods.

Lousy.

The very greatest indignation has been aroused by Mrs. Martin Harvey's contribution in support of "Doles for Nurses" in the same issue. To quote: "Do not forget you who have been gently nurtured, that practically all these cases from the front line were—in addition to all the horror connected with their wounds—lousy."

How dare this actress venture to expose the sanctity of the sick room? How did these glorious men become infected? *In saving England*. As a nurse we affirm that to allude to their condition—one of the worst tortures of the war—and claim filthy lucre for nurses for doing their duty in cleansing our suffering men, is a hideous lapse of taste upon the part of the woman who wrote it, and the paper which published it.

PLEASE APOLOGISE!

On February 3rd, Dame Swift, Matron-in-Chief, Joint War Committee, writes in support of Charity, and dares to state that these doles are appreciated "by the profession." As a member of the nursing profession and in the name of thousands of our colleagues, we call upon Dame Swift to withdraw this statement, and apologise for making it.

THE NURSES PROTEST IN FLEET STREET.

"Business as usual" was going on in the usual active way; nothing exceptional had occurred to interrupt the even tenor of business life on Wednesday, January 28th. The offices of the great Dailies were preparing for the nightly output. The buzz of many voices was suddenly hushed when a group of Nurses in uniform entered the office of the *Daily Telegraph*, wearing posters back and front inscribed with the words:—

DEGRADATION
of the
NURSING PROFESSION
by
THE DAILY TELEGRAPH.

TRAINED NURSES
protest against
SHILLING DOLES.

"We wish to see the Editor." A young man fled upstairs to bear the message, but soon returned to say that the Editor could not see them—he would not face the music!

Addressing the large and astonished staff, who stood gaping round, the leader of the procession said: "We have come to protest against the action of Lord Burnham for this insult in begging for charity for trained Nurses. The State should shoulder the duty of providing for disabled Nurses." Another: "We have been proud to nurse the sailors and soldiers who have fought for us, and died for us; it is very much against our wishes that they should be asked to contribute to our support." Another: "The body responsible for this appeal is a body of employers of Nurses who make a two-fold appeal to the Public, namely, to endow the College of Nursing Co., and for the maintenance of disabled Nurses, because they desire to build up the Profession on a basis of charity, and hold a monopoly of control over all Nurses. This is quite contrary to the spirit of democracy, and without the consent or wishes of the independent self-respecting Nurses." Leaving their astonished but not unsympathetic audience, the protestors next visited the offices of the *Daily Chronicle*, *The Times* and the *Morning Post*. They were received with courtesy. It was quite evident that they aroused sympathy when the *other side* of the case was put forward clearly and forcibly. We record with pleasure and gratitude that the *Morning Post* published in full the letter signed by the Presidents of the Organised Societies of Nurses setting forth their views upon this important matter. We wish all newspapers had the same sense of fairness.

BOBBIES TO THE RESCUE.

A journalist writes:—

"A notice had been received at our office that trained nurses objecting to the *Daily Telegraph* Shilling Fund for Nurses intended to demonstrate

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