

"Every military Sister and Nurse who resents this Shilling Dole Fund and its methods of publicity, owes it to herself and to her profession to express the objection to the Nursing Board, of which the Director-General, Royal Army Medical Corps, is chairman. We cannot believe under existing circumstances that they would be penalised for so doing.—Ed.)

Territorial Sister: "Lousy, indeed! Can't you just hear Tommy's *tu quoque*, to Mrs. Martin Harvey's description of his condition when in hospital, after suffering heroically in the trenches?" (We can; but we refrain from publishing it.—Ed.)

R.B.N.A. Nurse: "I have asked Mrs. Martin Harvey by what right she violates the sanctity of our soldiers' sick-room by alluding to them in the *Daily Telegraph* as in a 'lousy' condition in hospital. It is scandalous. These outsiders have no sense of professional fitness."

STARVING OFFICERS.

Mrs. Morison: "I note Earl Haig said at the Mansion House on Saturday that our demobilised officers and their families were actually starving. Are these the men to whom the War Office has permitted that enterprising news-sheet, the *Daily Telegraph*, to appeal for subscriptions for trained nurses? My niece was in the Reserve during the war, and, like thousands of other Sisters and Nurses, needs no charity doles. She is earning a sufficiency, as can other nurses, if they will only do the work in districts, infirmaries, and elsewhere, which requires doing. I note that the *Daily Telegraph* announces that 'collecting sheets have been sent out not only to all regiments in the United Kingdom, but to all ships in commission.' Does this mean senior officers can command their subordinates to subscribe? If so, it ought not to have been permitted by the War Office and the Admiralty. Social influence at work once again. Anyway, military nurses and sisters should protest publicly against this depreciation of their rank."

Out-Patient Sister: "As Matron is ardently 'College,' and thinks we ought to be very grateful 'to kind and powerful people,' for getting money for us, I offered to take a collecting box round the Out-patient Department of this hospital for the 'College Shilling Fund.' To this she objected most strongly and gave me a good wiggling for 'making such an impertinent suggestion!' Why? I can't see the difference of begging from civil hospital patients and of begging for nurses from soldiers, sailors, Waacs, quacks, V.A.D.s, and every sort of varlet, through a newspaper fund. Of course you will realise the above statement is quite imaginary, but it is not unreasonable. If I made the offer the whole hospital would be up in arms; and quite rightly."

THE POOR MATRONS.

Matron of a Small Hospital: "Sometimes, I think the poor Matrons need commiseration. We have not always a bed of roses. Committees

think of nothing but "expenses," and listen to every silly complaint, even from the newest pro. We are now threatened to be reported to the College of Nursing, if directions are objected to. Between the devil and the deep sea, indeed!"

BUSINESS HONOUR.

Superintendent Private Nursing Institute: "I was pleased to note you promised to deal with private nursing affairs. They need it. I find very few trained nurses have any sense of business honour. They think nothing of joining a staff, getting introductions to doctors, and then resigning and taking cases on their own, from these same doctors, and so injuring a hardly built up business. Is there any redress for this sort of thing?" (We should be greatly obliged to superintendents of such institutions, if they will reply to the above complaint. We know it has justification.—Ed.)

SCOTTISH NURSES PREFER UNION.

Scottish Nurse.—"We are very sad over our Nursing Act. We are entirely under the Board of Health, not a very understanding body, in my opinion. We ought to have had a United Kingdom Act, and been part of a large and influential Council, instead of having a little local Council to govern us, which will certainly require a State subsidy if it is to carry on."

[We fear Scottish nurses must blame their own compatriots for the splitting up of the United Kingdoms Bill. The Central Committee's Bill provided for union, but Scottish members of the College Council spent days in the Lobby in the House of Commons in obstructing its passage into law. We hope, however, that means will be found through reciprocity to minimise any injury to Scottish nurses.—Ed.]

NOTICE.

The Editor regrets that she cannot find space for long letters, and hopes her correspondents, whose communications she greatly values, will not exceed 300 words.

OUR PRIZE COMPETITIONS.

QUESTIONS.

February 7th.—What should a Nurse know about Venereal Diseases?

February 14th.—What conclusions might be drawn from a patient's posture in bed?

February 21st.—Frequent micturition in children. Describe causes and treatment.

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