

lished by the General Nursing Council to receive instructions as to how to proceed in order to have our names put on the State Register.

I am sorry the College cannot apply for the Members, but each individual nurse must communicate with and pay her fee directly to the State Department.

Faithfully yours,

E. SHERRIFF-MACGREGOR,
Organizing Secretary.

[REPLY FROM NURSE ADDRESSED.]

To the Secretary of the College of Nursing, Ltd.

DEAR MADAM,—Your letter of August 19th received, which stress of work has prevented me answering ere this. I quite understand your inability to register the nurses under the State Act, but I do not understand your inability or unwillingness to refund immediately money received "for goods you are unable to deliver."

Yours truly,

[Though thoroughly characteristic of its attitude to the rank and file of the Nursing Profession, we consider that the Council of the College of Nursing, Ltd., in attempting to evade its printed word on the question in discussion shows astounding moral obliquity.

What the Council printed in leaflet form, as an inducement to ignorant nurses to pay a guinea to the College, stated seven reasons why "Every Certificated Trained Nurse should apply at once for Registration by the College of Nursing."

1. Because the College of Nursing has drafted a "Nurses' Registration Bill," which provides that the Register already formed by the College of Nursing . . . shall be the first Register under the Act." There is no ambiguity about these words "shall be," and "under the Act."

There is no doubt that, through social influence, the College Council believed that it had only to pledge Parliament and its Bill would be law. In its arrogance it over-estimated its own power, also the supposed futility of Parliament. It also ignored the conscientious convictions of the free nurses' organizations and the influence of the women who formed them, and it is greatly to be deplored, now that the College Council has failed to stamp its will upon the *intelligensia*, that it has not the courage to make an honourable apology to the thousands of nurses it has misled—by inducing them to pay eighteen thousand guineas through a pledge it has failed to keep, rather than attempt to further mislead them.—ED.]

TRAINED NURSES PROFESSIONAL TRADE UNIONS.

To the Editor of THE BRITISH JOURNAL OF NURSING.

DEAR MADAM,—Through the London correspondence of to-day's *Herald*, we learn that some of the London boroughs are advocating Trade Unionism for their employees. The writer seems to indicate that this necessitates professional workers joining labour Unions and speaks of the

Council of the College of Nursing Ltd., as having lodged a protest with Dr. Addison on behalf of nurses. As most professional workers already have their own union, this is quite unnecessary. The Medical profession has its trade union, and the "Professional Union of Trained Nurses" formed in London has already made itself known and felt throughout England, and has formed a branch in Scotland which is gaining strength every week.

No one knows this better than the Council of the College of Nursing, Ltd., an association which is frequently referred to by the nursing profession as the "Employers' Combine," and which appears to lose no opportunity of trying to create disorganisation throughout the profession, but whose own disillusioned members form the foundation of a good strong reprisal on behalf of the working nurse.

I am, etc.,

CHRISTIAN H. McARA.

Hon. Sec. Professional Union of Trained Nurses
(Glasgow Branch).

KERNELS FROM CORRESPONDENCE.

A Superfluous Daughter.—"When one looks back at the strain of hospital training in the past throughout this, our Christian England, one wonders what all the mothers of the underpaid drudges were doing never to protest against it."

(Many of us simply loved the laborious days. It was a glorious self-satisfying time. We never complained to our mothers and would have resented their interference.—Ed.)

NOTICE.

PRIVATE NURSING.

Mrs. Bedford Fenwick will see candidates who wish to join the Registered Nurses' Society for private nursing on Saturdays, September 25th and October 9th, at 431, Oxford Street, London, W., from 2.30 to 4.30 p.m.

Qualification required: A Certificate for three years' training from a voluntary hospital containing not less than 100 beds; preference will be given to nurses who also possess experience in fever, mental, children's, or maternity nursing, or massage. Age, from 25 to 35.

OUR PRIZE COMPETITION.

QUESTIONS.

September 25th.—Describe the technique for taking blood for examination for typhoid bacilli. What are the special points to observe in the subsequent care of the patient?

October 2nd.—Describe the mechanism of the ear. For what conditions should the ears be syringed; describe methods of preparation.

October 9th.—State what you know about the Care of the New-Born Babe.

October 16th.—What is Surface Nursing? How would you care for the skin, hair, mouth, and nails of a helpless patient?

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