

and help members to realise that if they are threatened or coerced in any way, the matter can be brought before the proper Authorities by their Union, and they can be protected.

The P.U.T.N. stands for *freedom* for Nurses, and as far as possible, it is its policy to make public any injustices that are brought before it.

A few years ago, before the Professional Trade Unions were formed, there were not the same facilities for making these matters known. Now, however, things are altered, and for the better.

Yours faithfully,

MAUDE MAC CALLUM.
Hon. Secretary, P.U.T.N.

[We claim that all nurses should have freedom of action in joining professional organisations, and we are of opinion that many employers and matrons fear trade unions unduly. It was the same with Registration—thirty years of stupid opposition to a reform, which the majority of hospital managers and matrons now realise will, in the future, result in co-operation between all classes responsible for standards of nursing efficiency. We are tired of narrow outlooks, and reactionary methods; we need more spacious spheres for thought and action. Why for ever attempt to dam up outlets?—Ed.]

REGISTERED NURSES.

To the Editor of THE BRITISH JOURNAL OF NURSING.

DEAR MADAM EDITOR,—I gather from the College of Nursing Voting Paper, that the General Nursing Council has already started its Register, as "Registered Nurses" have proposed and seconded members for election on the College Council.

Would you let us know in the next issue of your valuable paper, how to become registered?

Yours, etc.,

A COLLEGE MEMBER.

[In referring to the above mentioned Voting Paper of the College of Nursing, Ltd., we find it states:—

"The following candidates have been duly proposed and seconded by Registered Nurses for election to the Council."

This statement is calculated to mislead the nursing profession into the belief that the General Nursing Council for England and Wales has opened its Register—as the Act specifically reserves the title "registered" to those nurses admitted to the Register compiled under Statutory authority by the General Nursing Council, so that it is very inadvisable for the College Council to describe its members as "Registered Nurses." The Act provides, Section 8 (1) that any person who (a), not being a person duly registered under this Act, at any time after the expiration of three months from the date on which the Minister of Health gives public notice that a register of nurses has been compiled under this Act, takes or uses the name or title of registered nurse, either alone or in combination with any other words or letters, or any name,

title, addition, description, uniform or badge, implying that he is registered under this Act, or is recognised by law as a registered nurse; . . . shall be liable on summary conviction to a fine not exceeding, in the case of a first offence, ten pounds; and in the case of a second or any subsequent offence, fifty pounds.

We therefore advise members of the College of Nursing to be very careful in the future not to inadvertently lay themselves open to prosecution, by using a title to which they have no right, unless registered by the General Nursing Council. No doubt whoever compiled the College Voting Paper did so in ignorance of the provisions of the Nursing Acts, and will be more careful in the future when the State Register is in operation.—Ed.]

VENEREAL DISEASE CONFERENCE.

To the Editor of THE BRITISH JOURNAL OF NURSING.

DEAR MADAM,—A North European Conference on Venereal Diseases is to be held at Copenhagen, convened by the Danish Red Cross Society, and there is naturally indignation amongst the progressive section of medical men that the British Red Cross has appointed as representatives three members of the National Council for Combating Venereal Diseases—one of whom is a lay woman, whilst excluding the Society for the Prevention of Venereal Disease from any representation. This means that the views of only one section will be heard, and the advocates for immediate self-disinfection as a means of prevention will be excluded.

This is the result of lay interference in medical and scientific questions—and only a beginning of the fatal injury likely to result from the domination of the British Red Cross in hospital management and medical and nursing affairs.

The huge annual subsidy by the Ministry of Health to the National Council for Combating Venereal Diseases should be made public; also how much we taxpayers had to pay through the Colonial Office for sending its two laywomen secretaries with one medical man on an expensive round world trip on this professional question. By what right do these ladies express opinions on the value of medical treatment of which they know nothing? As a trained Nurse I strongly object to being taxed for it.

Yours truly,

A VENEREAL SISTER.

KERNELS FROM CORRESPONDENCE.

An Ardent Registrationist.—"May I venture to suggest that if the Rules are not signed soon we kidnap Sir Alfred Mond and tether him at Runnymede until the deed is done!"

PRIZE COMPETITION QUESTIONS.

June 11th.—Name some of the superficial injuries to the eye in industry; and how they are treated.

June 18th.—Give twelve rules, with reasons, for securing health.

[previous page](#)

[next page](#)