

### NURSING ECHOES.

We invite our many friends who, in indignant letters—of which that from Miss Julia Hurlston is typical—resent the bullying attacks made upon us by medical members of the General Nursing Council at recent meetings, to study our signed Statement in this connection. As we informed the Council on May 19th, we are not to be intimidated in the performance of our public and professional duty as a member of that Statutory Body, but in self-protection, and in the protection of our colleagues, we are now acting under legal advice. What we wrote the Chairman of the Council, on March 11th, in reply to a letter from him asking for information upon a complaint from the Registrar, still stands good. We replied:—

“As I have determined not to submit to any further indignities from the Registrar of the General Nursing Council, or to ignore any repetition of secret personal detraction at the Ministry of Health by members of the Council, I have placed your letter of March 10th in the hands of my solicitor . . . to whom please address any further communication on the subject with which it deals.”

With what a sigh of relief we turn from the mean, pettifogging conduct of our professional affairs by the G.N.C. to the Report of the Meeting of the International Council of Nurses held last week at Copenhagen. Here for three days Registered Nurses met in fine good-fellowship, untrammelled by the justly resented control of social influence, to confer and act together concerning their own professional affairs and their relation to the body politic. And how did they do it? Just as they have always done when exercising their expert knowledge concerning nursing ethics and economics—with dignity, eloquence, conscientious conviction, and a deep sense of personal responsibility. Who dares to question the right and ability of Registered Nurses to manage their own affairs? Only ignorant and privileged persons. A few bureaucratic Government officials, tyrannical hospital big-wigs and their reactionary officials, and the “fashionable asses,” as Florence Nightingale dubbed the ignorant and interfering laywomen of her day!

All these types jealously stand between the Registered Nurse and her right to self-expression and government, and we recognise their pernicious opposition to the evolution of Nursing as a Profession when we gather in conference without their interference.

Let us be thankful that all over the world the stolid tramp of the forward march of the workers is discernible, and that the exploiter is up against a force he is unable to control—the awakened Soul of Humanity.

We are informed by the Joint Nursing and V.A.D. Services Committee of the United Services Fund that their Convalescent Home, “Eddlewood,” Queen’s Road, Weybridge (telephone, Weybridge 96), is now open for patients.

Members of the following Services are eligible for admission:—

Q.A.R.N.N.S.	T.A.N.S.
Q.A.R.N.N.S.R.	T.A.N.S.R.
Q.A.I.M.N.S.	R.A.F.N.S.
Q.A.I.M.N.S.R.	M.P.N.S.
Q.A.I.M.N.S. India.	J.W.C.
Q.A.I.M.N.S.R. India.	V.A.D. Members.

Inclusive terms will be £2 and £2 10s. for accommodation in small wards, or £3 a week for single rooms, and there are no extras.

The house stands high, and is equidistant from Weybridge and Walton, being a mile from each station. It stands in four acres of shady garden, and there is a tennis court and clock golf course.

The Committee have appointed Miss M. E. Thomson, R.R.C., formerly Q.A.I.M.N.S.R. and M.P.N.S., as Matron.

Nurses are wonderful people when they set to work to get money, and we are glad that delightful summer weather favoured the annual sale of work promoted by the nursing staff of the York County Hospital, which was held in the grounds of the institution on May 24th. The staff had been indefatigable and energetic in their preparations for the sale, at which all sorts of good and useful articles were procurable, and which realised the handsome sum of £310. The proceeds are to be used for special ward equipment.

The probationers at the York County Hospital are being trained on the G.N.C. Syllabus in preparation for the State Examination.

We constantly receive letters from Matrons deploring the shortage of the right sort of woman from which to select probationers. One asks this week: “Is it worth while trying to train such ill-educated, ignorant girls? It is like pouring water into a pitcher with a hole in it. It wears me out. . . . The truth is we nurses, even in our own General Nursing Council, are patronised by ignorant people set

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