

keep its pledge, and, once more, the General Nursing Council is to be invited to condone the indefensible methods by which the Council of the College obtained upwards of 15,000 guineas for Registration from nurses.

It behoves us, therefore, to be very much on our guard lest the very moderate standard defined by the Council should be whittled away and our Act made valueless.

As a Registered Nurse I am very much opposed to a revision of the Rules. The Rules as approved by the Minister of Health have not yet been in force for a year, and have already been tinkered with in a number of particulars at the instigation of members of the College, and it must create a feeling of great insecurity in the minds of nurses, if, at any meeting of the Council, Rules, which have been approved by the Minister and endorsed by Parliament, and under which they have agreed to be registered, can be overturned and something quite different substituted.

The Registered Nurses are in a most dangerous position, for they are controlled by a Council which is apparently influenced by persons who are running, for financial gain, a rival Register outside.

I am,

Yours faithfully,

BEATRICE KENT,
Registered Nurse.

KERNELS FROM CORRESPONDENCE.

Miss M. M. G. Bielby, Cranford.—"I wish your letter to *Time and Tide*, which is crammed with truth, could be 'broadcasted' to the general public."

[The general public has so long been crammed with untruths concerning our profession it will take years to divest it of the opinion that it is not composed of cringing mendicants, or that it has any ethical standards whatever.]—ED.]

ETHICS ALL WRONG.

Miss Joan Moore.—"I cannot agree with your advice, dear Editor, that nurses should register under the present Council. I for one would rather remain a quack for life. In my training school our conduct was never controlled by the medical staff, excepting so far as it was associated with the treatment of the patients. If the medical staff had just cause of complaint it was made to matron, and dealt with by the committee. How otherwise can discipline be maintained? The ethics of the G.N.C. are all wrong, and so long as doctors and ladies of title control it, the nurses are degraded, and suffering unjustifiable professional and personal injury. We nurses have as much right to govern ourselves through the Nurses' Registration Acts as the medical profession have through the Medical Acts, and I shall stand out on principle, even if I do suffer for it in the future."

[Unless women register who are inspired by a sense of justice and a love of liberty, as our correspondent evidently is, there is little hope of raising nursing from its present "serf" status. We sympathise strongly with our spirited correspondent, but we want her *inside* and not *outside* the

profession; she would be more helpful to her colleagues as a Registered Nurse.—ED.]

THE SCENT SCORE.

A Past Paddington Pro.—"Thank you for enquiring from Matron about the "scent" scare. Such statements injure an institution. I am pleased to record the just and kindly manner in which I was treated at Paddington Infirmary during my training. I also sometimes used Eau-de-Cologne, and have also committed the crime of powdering my red and shiny nose."

DISTINCTIVE LETTERS FOR NURSES.

C. F. T., Fever Nurse.—"Mr. M. C. Walshe calls attention to a very real difficulty—the wearing of letters on a State uniform for nurses by mental and fever specialists—as suggested by the General Nursing Councils of England and Scotland. It is an ill-advised proposal anyway. We professional nurses do not need to be thus labelled. What we do need are authorised letters to use after our names for clerical purposes, as used by other professions; and, after much thought and consultation with other nurses, we wish for S.R.N. for general nurses, and S. for State, before the distinctive letters for specialists. Thus S.R.F.N. for State Registered Fever Nurse. I hope this will soon be agreed by the Council. If the Badge is worn on the coat, and on the ribbon of the hat, we need no letters. The less we appear like V.A.D.s the better."

NOTICE.

TO NURSES ABOUT TO REGISTER.

Nurses who wish their names to be inserted in the first issue of the State Register must send in their Application Forms at once, and those nurses whose applications have been in the office for some time and who have received no intimation that they have been registered, should ask for information, as names should be submitted to the Council in strict rotation.

No nurse who has not been registered by October 1st next will be eligible to vote for the Direct Nurse Representatives at the forthcoming election, so that there is no time to lose if a nurse wishes to exercise her professional franchise.

Forms should be carefully filled in and the names given for reference from persons who have agreed to supply them.

WHERE TO REGISTER.

Apply for Application Form to the Registrar :—
ENGLAND AND WALES—12, York Gate, Regent's Park, London, N.W.

SCOTLAND—13, Melville Street, Edinburgh.

IRELAND—33, St. Stephen's Green, Dublin.

OUR PRIZE COMPETITION QUESTIONS

July 8th.—What is aneurysm of the aorta? Mention the principal symptoms. State the general mode of treatment and management.

July 15th.—What indications would lead you to suspect contracted pelvis? How is labour affected by this condition?

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