

Religious Orders give full nursing training to their members, and that they usually will not undertake night work and sundry other duties of a trained nurse. This involves all night duty, &c., being performed exclusively by lay nurses, who consequently get more than their share of such work, their health very often suffering thereby.

We consider that all positions in the public service should be open to those having the necessary professional qualifications, and, if members of Religious Orders choose to compete for nursing posts, they should be prepared to undertake all nursing duties. If the practice of giving posts such as the above to members of Religious Orders, to the exclusion of lay nurses, continues, a large number of Irish nurses will continue to be driven, as they are driven at present, to seek their livelihood in foreign lands, where their professional qualifications are more valued than in their own country. We cannot believe that your Board would wish to assist this enforced emigration of Irish girls.—*Mise le meas mor,*

M. McCARRY, Vice-President.

A very bright little lady recently paid a visit to the International Office at 431, Oxford Street. This was Miss Purbrick, the Superintendent of the Public Health Department, Derby, Connecticut, U.S.A., and a member of the State Board of Nurse Examiners for that beautiful New England State. Miss Purbrick has now returned to America, but as she is British and trained in England she intends to register "at home," as she is deeply interested in helping to raise nurses' educational standards all the world over. A chat with colleagues on international nursing questions is very refreshing. We find our steady old trot universally respected, as it produces reliable nurses; but—well, a little less drudgery and more systematic theoretical instruction *might* add to the security of standards. Just so.

FEVER NURSES' SECTION, R.N.P.C.

A Meeting, convened by Miss S. A. Villiers and Miss Stewart Bryson, was held at the South-Western Hospital, Landor Road, Stockwell, on Saturday, October 7th, to discuss the formation of a Fever Nurses' Section of the Registered Nurses' Parliamentary Council. Miss Breay, Hon. Secretary of the Council, explained its history and objects. It was unanimously decided to form a Fever Nurses' Section, and Miss Bryson kindly consented to act as Hon. Secretary and Treasurer.

It was unanimously agreed to support the candidature of Miss Villiers as the representative of the Fever Nurses on the General Nursing Council for England and Wales at the forthcoming election of direct representatives.

THE MATRONS' COUNCIL.



A Meeting of the Matrons' Council will be held, by the kind invitation of Miss Reynolds Hale, Matron, and of the Committee, at the Elizabeth Garrett Anderson Hospital for Women, Euston Road, N.W., on Saturday, October 21st, at 3 p.m. The Agenda includes the following interesting items:

5. To receive a report of the Conference held by the National Council of Women at Cambridge, September 25th to 29th, 1922. This will be made by Miss S. A. Villiers, the Hon. Treasurer, who, upon the nomination of the Matrons' Council and other organised affiliated societies, has been re-elected a member of the Executive Committee of the National Council.

6. The following Resolution will be moved:

"That the Minister of Health be urged to sign the Syllabus of General Training framed by the General Nursing Council for England and Wales, so that Nurses may enjoy the educational benefits provided by the Nurses' Registration Act, 1919."

It is recognised by the members of the Matrons' Council that systematic teaching and a general standard of nursing education will be impossible in general training schools unless a Syllabus of Training is approved by the Minister of Health as provided in the Nurses' Registration Act, and that it is extraordinarily inconsistent to provide such Syllabuses for Male Nurses, and all Special Branches of Nursing, Mental, Fever, and Sick Children, and to leave General Nursing Education in the present disastrous chaotic condition, especially as the Syllabuses for Male Nurses and Sick Children's Nurses are identical with that unanimously agreed to by the General Nursing Council, with the omission of "Gynæcology" from both curricula, and of "Diseases of Infants and Children" from the curriculum for Male Nurses.

A very sinister power is at the back of this attempt to deprive nurses, who have to qualify for examination and registration on the General Part of the Register, and we hope those nurses now training in the Voluntary General Hospitals and Poor Law Infirmaries will support the Matrons' Council in its demand for just educational conditions for them.

[previous page](#)

[next page](#)