

sideration, and which was only passed by a majority of two—makes every V.A.D. and semi-trained specialist eligible for the *General Part of the Register*. Should the Minister approve it, it will be a very grave breach of contract with the public and with the thousands of nurses who have already paid some £12,000 to register under the present Rules. The policy of Dr. Goodall (Chairman of the Registration Committee), who supported the attempt to deprive thoroughly trained nurses of the record of their certificates on the published Register, and now advocates this terrible professional depreciation of the General Part of the Register, proves how disastrous it is for a profession to be controlled by other than its own members. The proceedings of the General Nursing Council, as reported this week, are a disgrace to any Statutory Body, and it is high time Parliament intervened and held an enquiry into the whole Nursing Question.

The members of the Council who form the Registration Committee, and who recommended the Rule to admit semi-trained specialists without general training or experience from hospitals and institutions not approved by the Council, to the General Part of the Register, are: Dr. Goodall (Chairman), Miss Cox-Davies, Miss Dowbiggin, Miss Peterkin, Miss Coulton, Miss Sparshott, the Hon. Mrs. Hills, and Miss Steele.—Ed.]

AN ENQUIRY MOST NECESSARY.

To the Editor of THE BRITISH JOURNAL OF NURSING.

Miss Boyes presents her compliments and returns your complimentary copy of THE BRITISH JOURNAL OF NURSING, and hope she will not have to return another. Before printing you should ascertain the truth.

K. BOYES,
Matron.

Isolation Hospital,
East Ham, E. 6.

[On the afternoon of Tuesday, December 12th, we communicated with Miss Boyes by telephone, asking her if she would inform us what took place at the meeting notified to be held that day. She replied that the meeting would not take place until the evening, and very likely would not be over until 2 a.m. She advised us to communicate with the Clerk to the East Ham Town Council next day. This we did mid-day, Wednesday, and at some inconvenience inserted in our revised page the fact that Councillor Lethaby's motion was lost "that a Committee of investigation should be appointed to go into the charges which have been made against the Matron."

Our informant was unable to afford us any other information whatsoever.

Comment is needless. But if the Staff at the East Ham Isolation Hospital are treated by the Matron with the same lack of courtesy which she shows to the press the sooner the Committee asked for by Councillor Lethaby is appointed the better.—Ed.]

THREE WORLDS.

To the Editor of THE BRITISH JOURNAL OF NURSING.

DEAR MADAM,—Probably many of your readers besides myself may desire to know whence Mrs.

Griffiths derives the theories set forth in "Three Worlds," with a view to study, and which—if any—school of thought she represents. After twenty years' study of occultism, I confess I am astonished at the serious assumption that the average inhabitants of earth—as the characters in the book obviously were—pass to life on the planet Jupiter. This is in opposition to all the evidence which trained investigators have obtained. Not until all the lessons which earth-life can teach have been unforgettably learned is the soul allowed to proceed to those spheres which demand the highest stage of evolution attainable on earth. The souls fit for such promotion are indeed rare.

With so many ready for teaching concerning the lives to come it were a pity to offer them a theory which has not been tested, ignoring the already profound, proved knowledge which many of us possess, namely, that "All Heaven about us lies," and that our blindness to it, and to the world between us and Heaven, is simply due to our inability to transfer our consciousness to the levels of those worlds or planes of existence. In other words, our mind-stuff is of too coarse a nature to respond to the vibrations which reach us from the subtler planes. The matter of each plane interpenetrates that of the plane below it, all existing together at the surface of the earth. The poet, painter and musician are able to respond to some of such vibrations; hence their poetry, pictures and music—a foretaste of Heaven.

A multiplicity of theories on this subject is to be deprecated as confusing to thought and a hindrance to progress, whereas thought on the lines well-laid adds to the valuable sum of tested knowledge which has brought stability of belief regarding our continuous life to thousands during the last decade.

I am here concerned with Truth rather than with comfort; but surely it is more comforting to know that we are surrounded by our invisible dear ones than to imagine them on distant planets.

I am, Dear Madam,
Yours faithfully,
M. M. G. BIELBY.

Cranford, Middlesex.

PLEASE NOTICE.

Lists of the applicants approved by the General Nursing Council for registration on November 17th, 1922, and therefore not included in the printed list, can be obtained from the offices of the Council, 12, York Gate, Regent's Park, N.W.1.

Owing to the Christmas Holidays the *British Journal of Nursing* will be issued on Friday instead of Thursday next week.

OUR PRIZE COMPETITION QUESTIONS.

December 30th.—What is (a) a barium or bismuth meal; (b) a test meal. For what purpose are these meals given?

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