

on the authority of the State, as a safe attendant on the sick as a Registered Nurse.

STATEMENT III.

"The fact of not actually holding this certificate disqualifies hundreds of *bona fide* nurses. . . . The value of these women to the nation in country districts or town slums cannot be overestimated."

THE FACT:

I have already disproved the first part of this statement. In regard to the second, all nurses working in country districts and town slums, with one year's general training, are eligible for admission to the Register, and the very large majority of those who have not this minimum qualification are registered by the Central Midwives' Board and have legal status as Certified Midwives.

Miss Sheldon's statement reminds one of the argument of a noble Lord, when the Nurses' Registration Bill was before the House of Lords in 1908, that "there were two kinds of nurses required—one to nurse the people who had had important operations by eminent surgeons, and another to nurse the ordinary ailments of the poor."

I claim, and always have claimed, that the poor have the right to a safe standard of nursing skill equally with their more wealthy compatriots, and a continuance of the present reprehensible system which provides, as a charity, women with a few months of nursing experience for the sick poor in slums and villages who are not sufficiently skilled to attend upon persons with means, is just one of those indefensible inequalities which I hope will speedily be abolished by social evolution.

It is the duty of the General Nursing Council to protect the public, and the nursing profession, from the admission to the State Register of Nurses, of women who, in its opinion, do not "possess adequate knowledge and experience of the nursing of the sick."

The fact is, that when the College of Nursing, Ltd., formed its Register, its Council held out as an inducement to nurses to pay a guinea for a useless form of Registration by the College:—

"If, therefore, you are on the College Register, you will automatically and without further fee, be placed upon the State Register when the Nurses' Registration Bill is passed."

Parliament did not endorse this pledge, and the College Council is, consequently, in an untenable position. *Hinc illa lacrima.*

I am, Sir,

Yours faithfully,

ETHEL G. FENWICK,
Registered Nurse.

20, Upper Wimpole Street,
London, W. 1.

January 15th, 1923.

APPOINTMENTS.

MATRON.

Tamworth Hospital.—Miss Marion Newton, whose appointment as Matron of Tamworth Hospital we notified last week, at present holds the position of Sister-Tutor and Assistant Matron at St. Chad's Hospital, Birmingham, not of Matron as stated. The Matron is Miss Dorothy Jones.

ASSISTANT-MATRON.

General Infirmary, Leeds.—Miss A. E. Billington has been appointed Assistant-Matron. She was trained at the General Infirmary, Leeds, and has held the position

of Sister at the Doncaster Infirmary, of Charge Sister, Night Superintendent, and Housekeeper at the Beckett Park Hospital, T.A.N.S., 1914-1920, and of Assistant Matron from 1920.

SCHOOL DENTAL NURSE.

Northumberland County Council.—Miss Blanche Annie Spoor has been appointed School Dental Nurse. She was trained at the Royal Victoria Infirmary, Newcastle-on-Tyne, and has been Matron of Ashington Hospital.

QUEEN VICTORIA'S JUBILEE INSTITUTE

TRANSFERS AND APPOINTMENTS.

Miss Helen Wynne-Edwards is appointed to Hackney, as Superintendent; Miss Elsie W. Butler to Brighton, as Assistant Superintendent; Miss Florence E. Bellman to Brighton (Hove), as Senior Nurse; Miss Constance M. Perrins to Accrington, as Senior Nurse; Miss Evelyn Poppleton to Hackney, as Senior Nurse; Miss Sarah Evans to Northampton; Miss Lillian E. Flinn to Glossop; Miss Gladys C. Gibb to Brimington; Miss Hilda E. Hall to Abbots Langley; Miss Mary Hall, to Accrington; Miss Amelia V. Legge to Highcliffe; Miss Isabel Moister to Didsbury; Miss Lucy M. Mortimer to Maidenhead; Miss Margaret C. Mullin to Todmorden; Miss Rose M. Sharpe to Manchester (Bradford); Miss Mildred Stephens to Lewes.

THE PASSING BELL.

Nurse Helen Wilson of the Cathedral Nursing (District) Society, Newcastle-on-Tyne, died very suddenly from heart failure, while on a few days' leave at Christmas. She received her three years' training at Glasgow Town's Hospital, and afterwards worked as a Queen's Nurse at Harpurhey, Birmingham, &c. She was much liked by staff and patients during the two years she worked for the Cathedral Nursing Society. One of her last acts before starting on her short leave was to help in putting up the holly in the nurses' sitting room.

A large cross of early spring flowers from the nursing and domestic staffs was laid on her grave, and a Requiem Mass said in the private chapel at the Home by the Chaplain, the Rev. W. H. Anning.

MATRON EXONERATED.

Charges brought against the Matron of Epping Isolation Hospital by a former patient have been dismissed after a searching inquiry by the Rural District Council, who unanimously expressed the opinion that the charges ought never to have been made.

BEQUEST TO A SISTER.

Mr. William Pochin, late of Southport, bequeathed £500 to Sister May Pendleton, late of the Grange Hospital, Southport, and formerly nurse to his son, Arthur Whitwell Pochin, as recompense for her assiduous care and attention to him during his illness.

Mr. Isidore Ochse Freiwald, metal merchant, of the Hyde Park Hotel, Knightsbridge, and of Fenchurch Street, E.C., who died in December, 1921, aged 82, left estate in this country valued for probate at £56,000.

To his nurse, Miss Annie Mackenzie, he left £3,000, a life annuity of £1,000, and all his household and personal effects in England.

In addition he left £500 each to her three nephews and nieces.

The will had been the subject of an action in which the President of the Probate Court pronounced for its validity.

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