

no use to trained certificated Nurses. Because there seems no power to enforce its enactments, it is a positive danger and snare to the Sick Public. Evidence goes to prove that its only real value is to assist the untrained women, and defeat the aspirations of the highly qualified, for whose benefit it was placed on the Statute Book. I write this, Madam, with sadness and righteous indignation in my heart, on behalf of the host of young Nurses who have been so grievously betrayed. I strongly recommend two things :—(a) Read, and re-read the inspiring Editorial in this week's issue, and make of Thomas Wakley one of your heroes. (b) Read the life of that great and wonderful man Mussolini,\* who has saved and purified his country with the motto "God and My Country," and who is called by those who know him, "Not a man but a flame." A Fascisti movement is needed in the Nursing Profession to-day to overthrow the evil forces which prevail. This could be done if the Nurses had the will and the strong moral fibre to do it. Nothing else will save it.

BEATRICE KENT.

#### DISLOYALTY TO COLLEAGUES.

To the Editor of THE BRITISH JOURNAL OF NURSING.

DEAR MADAM,—Miss K. N. Price expresses the hope in the press that no midwife will be foolish enough, or mean enough, to apply for two posts advertised for dispensing midwives in Kerry at £3 a year each. I wish I could share that hope, but my experience is that someone is always to be found to take any post which she thinks it will be to her personal advantage to secure, regardless of the effect upon her colleagues, whether it be applying for a post which a colleague has resigned for good and sufficient reason, or from which she has been ejected without due cause; or in which the pay offered is not a living wage, because she herself has other means of support and can afford to regard it as pocket money.

Even this is not so mean as pretending that the work and ideas of other people are one's own original conception, and claiming and receiving credit for what is due to another. This particular form of meanness and disloyalty always reminds me of the rejoinder of a parish priest who was informed that a parishioner boasted that his church membership had only cost him an infinitesimal amount, and exclaimed, "The Lord have mercy on his poor stingy little soul."

Those who are so despicable as to claim credit, instead of giving it where it is due, will surely need much mercy "in that Day."

When will women as a sex learn not only to be loyal to one another, but to observe the rules of common honesty in their public relations?

Yours faithfully,

CERTIFIED MIDWIFE, S.R.N.

\*Mussolini: The Birth of a New Democracy." By G. M. Godden.

#### KERNELS FROM CORRESPONDENCE.

"FORCE MAJEURE."

A late Member of the G.N.C. writes :—"The Chairman of the General Nursing Council says that it has had to yield to *force majeure* in the matter of the enforcement of a 'prescribed training' for probationers. I beg leave to differ from that pronouncement. In the first place, the Council yielded because of its own weakness and vacillation; it seems totally unable to cope with any opposition, even of the mildest description, and in the second place may I point out to our Chairman that his own ignorance of the Nurses' Registration Act, demonstrated when he electrified not only the Deputation from the Association of Poor Law Unions, but the Nursing Profession throughout the country, through the Press, by informing them that the Syllabus of Training never could be and never would be compulsory, has much to do with the situation. If the Chairman of the G.N.C. diverted some of the force with which he addresses our representatives on the Council (though he seems to have been somewhat more courteous of late) to his dealings with the Ministry of Health when making representations concerning our affairs, and having the authority of an Act of Parliament behind him, perhaps he would not have to own that he had to yield to *force majeure*."

A LOW EBB.

Provincial Matron.—"To prove to what a low ebb we have come in this institution, candidates as probationers and ward maids apparently come from the same strata of society. I never know which position they intend to apply for until I ask the question."

#### REGISTRATION OF INTERMEDIATE NURSES.

The only Nurses who are now eligible for registration are what are termed Intermediate Nurses—those who have completed their three years' training and been awarded a Certificate since November 1st, 1919. The term of two years' grace for Existing Nurses has terminated.

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.

IRISH FREE STATE—33, St. Stephen's Green, Dublin.

NORTHERN IRELAND—118, Great Victoria Street, Belfast.

#### OUR PRIZE COMPETITION QUESTIONS.

November 3rd.—State what you know of diphtheria antitoxin, its preparation, doses, and the methods adopted in its use in the treatment of diphtheria; also state what is meant by Serum Sickness, its manifestations, and diagnosis from other conditions having similarity.

[previous page](#)

[next page](#)