

sick persons to be placed under the control of women who are not Registered Nurses. Apart from the fact that the members of my Council regard this decision as a serious blow not only to the prestige but to the economic status of Registered Nurses, directed from the greatest metropolitan authority, they also consider that it is a decision which ignores the right of the sick under their control to the highest standard of nursing treatment.

Parliament, through the General Nursing Council for England and Wales, has decided that the minimum amount of training required to qualify a nurse adequately to take responsibility for the care of the sick is three years; we strongly deprecate that unexamined persons with lesser qualifications should hold important administrative positions in hospital departments and thus compete with women who have used every effort to attain the standard of skill demanded by the State.

Our final criticism may appear a trivial one to your Committee but it is not so to the nurses. For long the title of "Sister" has been reserved for those who have reached positions of responsibility in their profession so that it is one which now possesses a high traditional value in the eyes of the nurses. They feel that it is a degradation of a title, which has stood for much in the light of professional attainment, that the London County Council should provide for its use by women who have not reached even the minimum standard of nursing knowledge required by the State.

My Council, all of whom are Registered Nurse ratepayers, hope that the decision of the London County Council to employ unregistered Nurses in positions of authority in relation to the sick under its care and control, may be reconsidered and its decision rescinded in this connection at an early date. They feel sure that the Central Public Health Committee would hesitate to recommend that registered medical practitioners in the service of the London County Council should be subjected to competition with unregistered practitioners, thus placing the sick in a seriously defenceless position.

I have the honour to remain,
Your obedient servant,

ALICE STEWART BRYSON,
Secretary.

To SIR MONTAGU H. COX,
Clerk to the London County Council.

CORRESPONDENCE.

A very large correspondence was dealt with. Letter from Miss J. T. Ruddy, M.B.C.N., President, Infectious Hospitals Matrons' Association, asking to be advised of someone "who would give a talk at the Kingscote Women's Institute, in October or November next on the Life of Florence Nightingale. We would, of course, pay expenses and fee for Lecture." Miss I. Macdonald offered to give an address on this subject, at the Kingscote Women's Institute, in October or November. This was agreed.

Letter from the Mayor of Walsall, giving particulars of the Ceremony to be held in paying homage to the memory of Sister Dora on Monday, 16th inst. (her Birthday), and inviting attendance at the Ceremony at 10.30 a.m.

Letter from Miss E. Horton, M.B.C.N., pointing out error published on page 6 of the Glasgow Society for Equal Citizenship and Glasgow Women Citizens' Association Report, which stated the complaint *re* the "absence of Women Attendants to dress the bodies of women brought into Public Mortuaries" was received from the College of Nursing. Reply sent pointing out that it was the British College of Nurses Council which took the initiative in proposing this reform.

Letters from Miss Violet M. Hersée, F.B.C.N.: (a) (Published in B.J.N.) sending thanks for beautiful Christmas card and interesting account concerning conditions of work in Paris, and (b) of appreciation that her letter was published in the B.J.N., and expressing appreciation of the account of "Tour of The London Hospital."

Letter from Captain Mary Layton, M.B.C.N., enclosing copy of "The Crusader" in which is published an account of the opening of the Salvation Army's first Hospital in China, on October 10th, 1932, at Ting Hsien, Hopei.

Letters from Miss E. T. Hayward, M.B.C.N.: (a) stating

"in the December number of the B.J.N. there is an article on The Bethlem Royal Hospital at Beckenham. I am writing to ask you if you could advise me how to go about getting a vacancy at this wonderful place for my young sister"; (b) Letter of thanks for sending on her letter to Bethlem Royal Hospital, Monks Orchard, and (c) Letter from Dr. J. G. Porter Phillips, Physician-Superintendent, saying that the letter will receive his attention.

Letters from (a) Miss M. Taylor, F.B.C.N., Matron, General Hospital, St. John's, Newfoundland, and (b) Miss M. M. Sim, F.B.C.N., Matron, Hospital for Mental and Nervous Diseases, St. John's, Newfoundland, sending a gift of water colour painting of a Newfoundland outpost. The Council agreed that a letter of warm thanks be sent to Miss Taylor and Miss Sim, for this beautiful picture.

Letter from Miss M. Paterson, stating that she has made arrangements to take her Midwifery Training at the Elsie Inglis Maternity Hospital, Edinburgh, to enter on April 26th, 1933.

Letters from Miss M. C. Hall, M.B.C.N., of thanks for Grant of £35 from the College to enable her to take her Midwifery Training and C.M.B. Examination and notifying that she began her course of training at the General Lying-in Hospital, York Road, on January 2nd.

ADMINISTRATION CLASSES.

(a) Letters from Miss M. Littleboy, Matron, London Hospital, expressing appreciation of the pictures and article on the London Hospital published in the B.J.N. and ordering extra copies.

(b) Miss E. G. Dare, Matron, Queen Charlotte's Hospital, stating that Thursday, February 2nd, will be convenient for Administration Class to visit the Auxiliary Hospital and Isolation Block, Goldhawk Road, Hammersmith.

(c) H. B. Harper, Esq., J.P., Secretary, and Miss Robertson, Matron, consenting to Class visiting Lord Mayor Treloar Cripples' Hospital and College, Alton, Hampshire, on Tuesday, April 4th, at 2 p.m. A second letter from Miss Robertson offering to give Tea to the Class when visiting on April 4th. Thanks to be expressed to Miss Robertson.

(d) Miss W. M. McAllister, Matron, Clinic for Rheumatism, Peto Place, N.W.1, requesting that Class visit might be postponed from March 10th until after Easter. Reply sent.

(e) Letters of application to attend Spring Course of Classes on Administration have been received from the following Members who attended the Autumn Course:—

Miss Maria Chitson, F.B.C.N.

Miss E. A. Elliott, F.B.C.N.

Miss Spencer-Jones, F.B.C.N.

Miss W. P. Solomon, F.B.C.N.

Miss G. Sharpe, M.B.C.N.

Mrs. E. M. Williams, F.B.C.N.

and Miss Lily M. Cole, M.B.C.N., since September, 1926, Maternity Ward Sister at St. Stephen's Hospital, Fulham Road, a new candidate for Class. It was agreed that these applicants should, with five others, be included in the Spring Course.

Thanks for Christmas cards from:—(a) Miss Frances I. Claydon, Punjab, India; (b) Miss Sallie Round, District Kolaba, India; (c) Miss Hannah Scholes, Detroit, Michigan; (d) Miss Ethel Tomkinson, Mysore, S. India; (e) Miss Jessie M. Wilson, Brantford, Ontario; (f) Miss D. Warren, Barbados.

Letters of thanks for Diplomas and Badges.

Letter and Christmas Card from D. Munro, and Marion and Harold Lampard, the Secretaries of the Baghdad Y.M.C.A., giving description of improvements and offering fuller details if required.

Letter from Mr. W. C. Baker, asking for advice as to best course to take to start as Male Mental Nurse, being under age (19). It was agreed that Mr. Baker be advised to

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