

NURSING POLITICS.

We learn quite a number of well-trained Scottish Nurses are crossing the border in the hope of obtaining better professional positions in England.

Quite justifiable, of course, but presumably nurses in our leading hospitals look forward to promotion at their nursing schools and in England generally.

In the meantime time flies, and three of the five years of competition with semi-trained nurses have already passed, and it would be interesting to learn what is being done by the General Nursing Council for Scotland, and by Scottish nurses to compel Parliament to fulfil its pledge to protect the standard of Registered Nurses in Scotland.

We advise organisation at once to compel the enforcement of the pledge to revise the Act made by the late Secretary for Scotland in 1943, when he co-operated with the promoters of the disastrous Nurses' Act, undermining the Registered Nurses' status and using their Registration Fees for so doing.

In this connection just so long as Regulation 19 of that "confidential" Act stands on the Statute Book so long will the status of Registered Nurses be a snare and a delusion.

We fear Registered Nurses in England will not take public action to protect the sick from quacks until financial competition compels them to do so.

In the meanwhile the educational standard of applicants for training is deteriorating.

APPOINTMENT AS MATRON.

Queen Elizabeth Hospital for Children, Hackney Road, London, E.—Miss I. G. Robertson, R.G.N., R.S.C.N., has been appointed Matron. She was trained at the Royal Hospital for Sick Children, Glasgow, and at the Victoria Infirmary, Glasgow, and has been Medical Ward Sister at the Royal Hospital for Sick Children, Aberdeen, Sister Tutor at the Princess Elizabeth of York Hospital for Children, Shadwell, E.; Sister Tutor and Sister-in-Charge, and Matron at the Princess Elizabeth of York Hospital for Children at Bayford; and Matron of the Queen Elizabeth Hospital for Children, Hackney Road, E., temporarily from April, 1944.

Miss Robertson is a qualified Sister Tutor, and took the Course of Housekeeping and Hospital Administration at Guy's Hospital, London.

CARE OF CHILDREN COMMITTEE.

We are in warm sympathy with the action of Sir Waldron Smithers, M.P., in the House of Commons, in urging that the work of the Committee dealing with the care of children be expedited, as apparently drastic reorganisation in institutions with authority over them is necessary at the earliest possible date.

Sir Waldron Smithers recently asked the Secretary of State for the Home Department, in the House of Commons, when he expected to receive the report of the Committee which had been sitting for nearly a year and which was inquiring into provision for children deprived of normal home life, and if he would ask the Committee to expedite their report.

Mr. Ede replied: This Committee has submitted an interim report on the training in child care of residential workers in homes and institutions for children. This report is now being printed for publication.

Sir W. Smithers: Is the Rt. Hon. gentleman aware that he cannot act on an interim report? What I am asking is that the final report should be expedited so that action can be taken.

Let us hope that the lack of discipline in these institutions—made apparent through the Press—may cease to cause public anxiety.

WHAT TO READ.

MEMOIRS AND BIOGRAPHY.

- "J. A. Spender." Wilson Harris.
- "Tschaikovsky." Herbert Weinstock.
- "Thackeray's Marriage." Harold Hobson.

FICTION.

- "Briarways." Dorothy Quentin.
- "The Clock Strikes Twelve." Patricia Wentworth.
- "Can I Go There?" Anne Hepple.
- "Throw Away Yesterday." Berta Ruck.
- "The Umbrella Thorn." Peter de Polnay.
- "Blue Days and Fair." Henry Gibbs.
- "To See a Fine Lady." Norah Lofts.

MISCELLANEOUS.

- "Praise of Ladies." James Stephens.
- "Murder Makes Murder." Michael Halliday.
- "Greece." Francis Noel-Baker, M.P.
- "Talk of the Devil." Denis de Rougemont.
- "Yes, Farewell." Michael Burn.
- "The Unknown Dominion." Bruce Hutchison.
- "The Marriage of Josephine." Marjorie Coryn.
- "England Under the Stuarts." G. M. Trevelyan, O.M.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR.

Whilst cordially inviting communications upon all subjects for these columns, we wish it to be distinctly understood that we do not in ANY WAY hold ourselves responsible for the opinions expressed by our correspondents.

NATIONAL INSTITUTE FOR THE BLIND.

224-6-8, Great Portland Street,
London, W.1.

February 25th, 1946.

To the Editor of THE BRITISH JOURNAL OF NURSING.

DEAR MADAM,—Thank you so much for your most valuable and sympathetic review of our Annual Report.

Yours very truly,

J. DE LA MARE ROWLEY, *General Editor.*

As Registered Nurses will require all the public help which they can command, owing to the policy of the Ministry of Health and the provisions of Regulation 19 through which the General Nursing Council of England and Wales can and has used their subscriptions in support of compiling the Assistant Nurses' Roll, it is essential that they should take some public part in their own defence.

We, therefore, have great pleasure in inserting the following letter from the Hon. Secretary of the Fighting Fund for Freedom, and hope that they will be able to obtain the support of this influential Society in an effort to protect their professional status.

FIGHTING FUND FOR FREEDOM.

(LIMITED BY GUARANTEE.)

1, Dover Street, London, W.1.

February, 1946.

DEAR MADAM,

Since 1944 we have worked to uphold our Common Rights and we have created a Public Opinion which is being expressed to-day. Now that the war has ended we want to establish a closer personal contact with our supporters, and we are anxious to make a start by meeting as many as possible and discussing with them the problems of their district, and the way in which the Fund can actively help. Less literature will be sent out, and we hope to see more people at our headquarters.

At a later date we hope to arrange for a Representative to be in your district.

Yours sincerely,

B. M. YOUNG, *Hon. Secretary.*

[previous page](#)

[next page](#)