

will be accused of dealing out hard measures ; if the latter, of favouring those who do not pay at the expense of those who do.

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BUT there is another lesson to be learnt from the fact that this Rule has been actually passed. Some four years ago, Mr. Editor, in advising all Nurses to join the Association as soon as possible, made a prophecy which elicited endless jeers and gibes, at the time, but which has since proved absolutely true in every particular. "It is easy to foresee that under such management as the Association possesses, its progress will resemble that of all similar Associations. The terms of membership will be gradually raised, the means of gaining access to its roll will be steadily made more difficult ; we imagine that, possibly, the present small subscription will be increased in future—in short, that membership of the Association will be more and more jealously reserved for the best Nurses. It is easy to foresee that when that time comes many will deeply regret that they did not take the just and generous opportunities of membership offered to them in the early days of the Association, and that the sneers which interested opponents now raise as to the 'open door' will then be changed into equally futile complaints as to the difficulties of access to the benefits of the Association."

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EVERYONE knows how impossible it is for any but the very best Nurse now to become a Member of the Association. Rarely a week passes without our receiving letters from Nurses who were foolish enough to believe the abuse poured upon the Association, and who therefore postponed applying for its membership, and who now find that their applications are refused. We hear, on all sides, of the stringency with which inquiries are made concerning applicants for registration or membership. Now, the further step is clearly about to be taken of weeding out from the Association those who have shown themselves unlikely to be a source of strength or credit to it. It is now as plain as day-light what the managers of the Association intend to do. They see that it is firmly established and strong enough to stand alone, and they evidently intend to make its membership one of the highest honours to which a Nurse can attain. Quality not quantity, is evidently to be the watchword in future, and Nurses who desire to stand well in their profession would be wise to note this, and—as soon as they possibly can do so—to endeavour to become Members of the Royal British Nurses' Association.

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I AM asked to state that Mrs. BEDFORD FENWICK is at present in Chicago arranging for the exhibits of British women's work in the Exhibition which will be held next year in that great city. She is

expected back in England early next month, and will then, as soon as possible reply to the many inquiries which have been sent to her by Nurses desirous to enter for the Prize Doll competition. It would, therefore, be well for Nurses who desire such information, to wait until the end of October before writing.

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I AM glad to hear that Miss CLARE CAMM, M.R.B.N.A., has been appointed Matron of the Wynburg Hospital, British Bechuanah Land. I hear that the advances which the Nursing profession is making in South Africa in popular estimation—thanks to the system of State registration now in force in Cape Colony—is very marked, and that the R.B.N.A. is there recognised as a great motive force. There is no doubt that the same results would follow Parliamentary action in this country, and from what I hear, the Government in this country may undertake legislation for Nurses sooner than is generally expected.

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I AM pleased to hear that Miss CURTIS, who was trained and obtained her Certificate at St. Bartholomew's, and who for some time acted as temporary Sister of the Radcliffe ward in that Institution, has been appointed Matron of St. Mark's Hospital.

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THE *Evening News and Post* last week reported a case which is somewhat different from the ordinary run of police-court trials in which so-called 'Nurses' are engaged, and which bring such incessant discredit upon the profession, as there is no means of distinguishing trained Nurses as a body from these disreputable characters. The trial is thus reported by our contemporary :—

"Myra James, 18, said to be a hospital nurse, was charged on remand before Messrs. Glover, Horsley, and Reynolds, at Highgate, with stealing a silver watch and chain, a gold ring, a gold bangle, and a gold pencil-case, value £9, the property of Minnie Glover, of Myddleton Road, Hornsey.—The prosecutrix deposed that she was a cashier, residing with her parents. On Sunday morning, September 25th, prisoner called at their house and asked if they could recommend respectable apartments. Prosecutrix's mother took her in as a lodger, and she remained until the following Wednesday evening, sleeping in witness's bedroom. On the Wednesday evening prisoner went out and did not return. The articles mentioned were missed, and information was given to the police. Prisoner had represented herself as a hospital nurse.—Mrs. Glover corroborated.—Mr. Bailey, a jeweller, &c., of Turnpike Road, Hornsey, said that he bought the articles produced from prisoner on Wednesday evening, giving her 18s. for them.—Prisoner, who cried bitterly, pleaded guilty.—Detective Friller, Y Division, who had charge of the case, said that inquiries showed that prisoner had been a nurse at Winchmore Hill Hospital, but was discharged for misconduct.—The Bench, who apparently had before them some letters referring to prisoner, sentenced her to three months' imprisonment with hard labour.

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