

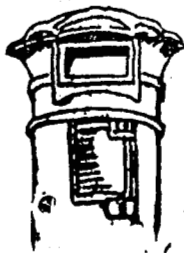
November 26th.—“Scavenging, Disposal of House Refuse,” by Charles Mason, Assoc.M.Inst.C.E., A.R.I.B.A., Surveyor Vestry of St. Martin's-in-the-Fields.

First Sessional Lecture, Royal British Nurses' Association, 17, Old Cavendish Street. “A Demonstration of the present stage of the application of the Röntgen Rays to Surgical Diagnosis,” by Mr. Isenthal.

November 28th.—Her Royal Highness, Princess Christian of Schleswig-Holstein, President of the Royal British Nurses' Association, will hold a small sale of work in aid of the funds of the Association, at 17, Old Cavendish Street, W., from 2.30 to 6 p.m.

November 27th and 28th.—Bazaar for St. Monica's Home Hospital for Children, N.W., at the rooms of the National Health Society. 3 to 8 p.m.

December 1st.—Princess Christian unveils a memorial tablet to the late Mrs. Rundle Charles at the North London Hospital for Consumption, Hampstead.



Letters to the Editor.

Notes, Queries, &c.

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.

THE REGISTER.

To the Editor of “The Nursing Record.”

DEAR MADAM,—I beg to thank you for so plainly placing before your readers, and myself in particular—as your remarks were in some measure the result of my letter which appeared on the 7th inst.—matters which are obscure to the uninitiated concerning this very important question of the admittance of Asylum Attendants to membership and the register of the Royal British Nurses' Association. I have failed to take your advice to inquire at the Office of the Association for information, because a previous letter sent by me received no satisfactory reply, and we members have become a little restive during the past year under the inane formulas usually received as replies to our letters, running somewhat upon the following lines :—“Madam,—I am directed by the Hon. Officers to acknowledge your letter of the — inst., and to inform you it has been laid before the Executive Committee,” signed by a secretary who was away from duty, and supplemented by a diminutive “per E.G.,” whatever that may mean—presumably some mysterious person performing the secretarial duties. Now, these stereotyped letters (why should they not be printed, it would save clerical work in the office) can hardly be considered satisfying to the member of enquiring mind who has a right to full information concerning the management of the Association to which she belongs, and concerning which you have proved over and over again we have been wilfully misled in the *Nurses' Journal*, and I am inclined to agree with the majority of your correspon-

dents, that if any attempt is to be made to deprive us of the privileges for which we paid when we entered our names on the Register of Trained Nurses, that our only hope is a General Meeting of the Corporation, at which our accumulated wrongs could be publicly discussed, a course which has twice been prevented by the Hon. Officers of the Association : in 1895, by an agreement only made to be broken with the Matrons who met some of the medical members of the Executive in Conference, and in 1896, by the ruling of Sir James Crichton-Browne at the Annual Meeting. Now these wrongs still exist, and the suggestion of Dr. Wood would, if carried into effect, prove the most disastrous of them all to Nurses. The policy of “smashing up the Matrons” by depriving them of their *ex-officio* seats first upon the Council, and now upon the Registration Board, has all along had one definite aim, and that has been and is, the depreciation of the position of the Trained Nurse ; in other words, “to lower the status of Registered Nurses, and the just influence of the Matrons”—a status which we owe primarily to your Herculean labour during the last ten years, but which has been rewarded, like the work of all reformers, by the most contemptible ingratitude.

I am, yours truly,
A THOROUGHLY TRAINED NURSE.

THE NEW REGISTRATION BOARD.

To the Editor of “The Nursing Record.”

MADAM,—I shall be obliged if you will give us the names of the new Registration Board nominated by Mr. Fardon, upon whose suggestion it seems the *ex-officio* members have been deprived of their seats—after being offered, and accepting them—a further unjustifiable breach of faith with those who have worked for us for six years. I find, on referring to the Register for 1896, that by Mr. Fardon's action, the Nursing profession has been deprived of the assistance of the following ladies and gentlemen :—The President of the British Medical Association, the President of the Incorporated Medical Practitioners' Association, the Matrons of St. Bartholomew's Hospital, St. George's Hospital, St. Mary's Hospital, The Royal Free Hospital, The Infirmary, Leicester, Royal Infirmary, Bristol, Dr. Steeven's Hospital, Dublin ; Lady Superintendent, Indian Army Nursing Service, and our Founder, Mrs. Bedford Fenwick.

It would be interesting to know if any of those shuffled off the permanent seats they had accepted on the Registration Board have condescended to be nominated for temporary re-election by the Medical Superintendent of the Middlesex Hospital.

I am,
Yours truly,
INQUIRER.

[We must advise that such questions should be addressed to the officials at the office of the Royal British Nurses' Association.—ED.]

A MISAPPREHENSION.

To the Editor of “The Nursing Record.”

DEAR MADAM,—My attention has been called to a statement in your paper as to my action on the Board of Guardians, and I think it well to let you know at once that you have been entirely misinformed as to that action.

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