

been prematurely called to pronounce upon the subject before it had been thoroughly investigated."

And we would ask whose fault it is that the members have so far been denied this "thorough investigation"? As we have stated before, the matter has been under discussion by the Council since July, 1896, and so far the Executive Committee and the members have been denied all power of expressing an opinion officially. It is true that a sub-Committee has at last been appointed by the Executive Committee, a method of procedure which should have been adopted eight months ago; but, as in spite of protest only those members of the Executive (with one docile exception) have been placed on this Committee who have already voted for the admission of asylum attendants, we have little to hope from its deliberations.

We are glad to learn, however, that should this terrible injustice to trained nurses and the public be effected at the dictation of the hon. officers, a new Society will at once be formed to protect hospital-trained nurses and their patients from the dangers of a Register on which will appear the names of persons who have had no hospital training, and that an appeal to Parliament will be made, urging it to enforce the legal registration of *trained* nurses at the earliest possible date.

We are glad to find that Dr. Biernacki has drawn the attention of the members to the extraordinary action of Miss Georgina Scott, of Bournemouth (who had access to the roll of members, and their addresses, kept in the office) in circularising the members on the mental nurse question. He has a neat and effective way of insinuating his rapier between the joints of the armour. He writes:—"Miss Georgina Scott, by way of refuting some statements put forward by Miss Wingfield, has, I understand, sent to members of the Royal British Nurses' Association reprints of two letters addressed by Drs. Woods and Strahan to the *British Medical Journal*. As these letters were criticisms, not of Miss Wingfield's views, but of my own, and the communication criticised was omitted, no doubt inadvertently, from the reprint, I venture to lay before your readers the unheard side of the case," which he proceeds to do with excellent reasoning. We hope this criticism will convince Miss Scott that in future it would be wiser to let the hon. officers pick their own chestnuts out of the fire.

## Nursing Echoes.

\* \* \* *All communications must be duly authenticated with name and address, not for publication, but as evidence of good faith, and should be addressed to the Editor, 20, Upper Wimpole Street, W.*



THE Prince of Wales has consented to become patron of the Queen's Commemoration Fund in aid of the Queen's Jubilee Institute for Nurses. The fund now amounts to £28,534.

It is announced that Lord Iveagh has subscribed £12,500 to the Commemoration Fund for providing trained Queen's nurses for the Irish poor in addition to a like amount to the Prince of Wales's Hospital Fund.

SOME interesting memorials of Miss Florence Nightingale, including a portrait of her at the age of seventeen, and the bust that was presented to her by the soldiers in the Crimea, will be exhibited in the Nursing Section of the forthcoming Victorian Era Exhibition at Earl's Court. We are glad that the success of the British Section at Chicago has been the pioneer of such useful displays.

At the annual meeting of the East London Nursing Society, held at the Mansion House, on Monday, the Lord Mayor, who presided, said that while everyone had the profoundest admiration for the medical profession, he could not help thinking that many sick persons were saved from death by the vigilance, the watching, the knowledge, and the skill of nurses. The Bishop of Stepney also testified to the invaluable work done by the nurses of the East London Nursing Society. During the past year 4,984 cases have been nursed by this Society.

At a recent meeting of the St. John's House Debating Society, the question of cycling was discussed. The subject excited much interest, and a primary and four bye papers were read. Nurse Miles, Nurse Proviss, Nurse G. Walker, Nurse Candy, Nurse Wakelin and Nurse Davis took part in the discussion which followed. The opinion in favour of cycling seemed almost unanimous, and even a paper which was read professedly against cycling for women, though it began by cursing, ended by blessing the pastime.

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