

Nursing Politics.

SINCE WHEN?

IN this month's R.B.N.A. organ we read the astounding paragraph, which we quote below. If the past, instead of the present, tense had been used, we should not question its veracity.

"It is quite true," says the Editor (an untrained woman) "that the Association exists primarily for the consolidation and advancement of the nursing profession. (Wait a moment whilst we adjust our *pince-nez*.) Its main purposes are organization and progress. Its members are independent women (No no!) in receipt of good, if not always high earnings, and with every opportunity of making good provision for sickness and old age. They are in no sense to be regarded as helpless or incapable of looking after their own interests, (then why are the honourable and official positions monopolised by medical men at the rate of *thirty-seven to three* nurses?) and the very fact of their associating together for common purposes in a Chartered Society—a step achieved so far by the members of no other feminine occupation (why not profession?) is sufficient to prove indisputably their vigour and capacity."

With the exception of Miss Thorold and Miss Wedgewood, no Matrons of hospital training schools were present at the General Council of the R.B.N.A. on October 29th. Mr. Pickering Pick was in the chair, and the meeting was attended by eighteen nurses and eight medical men, the whole business of the meeting being conducted by Mr. Langton, Mr. Edward Fardon, and their chief whip Dr. Bezly Thorne. The Middlesex Hospital, which has undue representation as of old, on the Council, was represented by eight nurses and doctors at present attached to the hospital, or trained there—or nearly one-third of the whole Council!

Fifty guineas have been taken from nurses during the past quarter as Registration Fees, although no Register is now issued. Sometimes one wonders if women are ripe for self-government.

We should advise the Editor to keep her eye on the quality of the paper used for the "official organ," with a steadily deteriorating quality month by month the bound volume will not present a business-like appearance. However, every amateur has to buy experience, and at the nurses' expense presumably it does not matter in the R.B.N.A. office.

Appointments.

MATRONS.

MRS. LOUISA M. STANNING has been appointed Nurse-Matron of the Jubilee Hospital, Penrith. She received her training at the Royal Infirmary, Liverpool, and the Huddersfield Infirmary, and has held the positions of Head Nurse at the General Hospital, Newark, and at the Royal Bath Hospital, Harrogate, and Matron at the Nicholson McKenzie Memorial Hospital, Strathpeffer, N.B.

MISS WACHER, at present Matron of the Grove Hospital, Tooting, asks us to state that her title is Matron of the Small-pox Hospital Ships, not Superintendent of Nurses.

SUPERINTENDENT NURSE.

MISS ANNIE BIRD has been appointed Superintendent Nurse of the Warwick Workhouse Infirmary. She received her training at the Royal Southern Hospital, Liverpool, and has held the positions of Night Staff Nurse at Paddington Infirmary, Assistant Nurse at Woburn, and at Christchurch Workhouse Infirmary, and Superintendent Nurse at Rugby Workhouse Infirmary. Miss Bird holds the certificate of the London Obstetrical Society.

MISS MARY I. L. PIERCE has been appointed Superintendent Nurse at the Infectious Diseases Hospital, Gallows' Hill, near Hertford. She received her training at the Salisbury Infirmary, and subsequently worked on the staff of the Monsall Fever Hospital. She has also held the positions of Sister in Charge of the St. Helen's Sanatorium, and of the Isolation Hospital, Bagthorpe, Nottingham.

American Ship fetes.

THE Concert at Claridge's Hotel, on November 18th, in aid of the American Hospital Ship Fund, which is being most ably organized by Mrs. Brown Potter, promises to be a huge success. The Prince of Wales has promised to be present, and everybody who is anybody will be there. The dressmakers are busy producing the very smartest "creations," and lovely woman will, from all we hear, be adorned to perfection on the occasion. Altogether, the function promises to be one of the sensations of the season.

Another smart function to which many people are looking forward with the keenest anticipation is the "At Home" at the Hotel Cecil, given for the same object by the Society of American Women in London. The date of this has been deferred from November 24th to December 4th, and the arrangements are being planned with all the zest and effectiveness for which our trans-Atlantic cousins are renowned.

[previous page](#)

[next page](#)