

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\* \* \* All communications must be duly authenticated with name and address, not for publication, but as evidence of good faith, and should be addressed to the Editor, 20, Upper Wimpole Street, W.



WE are glad to hear that several Matrons and nurses intend to attend the Annual Conference of the National Union of Women Workers, at Brighton, which opens on the morning of Tuesday, October 23rd, as there are several Papers to be discussed in which we are interested. First, "The Work of Women on Hospital and other Boards," to be read on the 24th by Miss Louisa Stevenson, Governor of the Royal Infirmary, Edinburgh; "The Training and Supply of Poor Law Officials"; "The Local Government Board Proposals for dealing with the Epileptic and Feeble-Minded," and "The Training of Afflicted Children," are all questions upon which trained nurses are able to form opinions of value, and it is to be hoped that some of them will find courage to speak on these topics. Mrs. Bedford Fenwick will again represent the Registered Nurses' Society on the National Council, and Miss Isla Stewart is again the delegate of the Matrons' Council.

NURSES who wish to stay at Sir Julian Goldsmid's Home of Rest, 12, Sussex Square, for the Congress, should make arrangements with the Matron at once. It is to be hoped that some of the "women workers" will have time to visit this charming Home—we know how graciously Mrs. McIntyre can do the honours.

ACCORDING to a contemporary, "a leading London doctor" says that "hospital nurses ought to come under the Compensation Act." Why? And if nurses, why not medical practitioners? Both doctors and nurses realize the risk of their respective callings when they enter them, and their professional fees should be arranged on a sufficiently liberal scale to enable them to make the necessary provision to meet these risks. As a matter of fact, it is wonderfully seldom that trained nurses contract disease from their patients. Medical men who desire to help nurses, can best do so by assisting them in their endeavours to place their profession on a sound basis, and, further, in helping them to obtain the fees due

to them for their skilled services. It is uncommon for a medical man to trouble himself in any way to see that a nurse receives the fees to which she is entitled, yet, without her help, it would be quite impossible for him to perform the operations which, relying on it, he has no hesitation in undertaking, thereby increasing his reputation as well as his banking account. When nurses receive the fees to which their skilled services entitle them, there will be no need for them to come upon public charity for maintenance in times of sickness.

THE Ladies' Committee of the American Hospital Ship *Maine* have received a telegram from Wei-hai-wei stating that the *Maine* has left that port for Ta-ku to take further detachments of sick and wounded on board.

NEWS comes from Yokohama that the wounded men of the European contingents were taken to the Japanese hospitals, where they were exceedingly well treated, wives of Japanese officers, ladies of the Japanese nobility, and wives and daughters of Ministers acting as nurses. On leaving the hospitals the soldiers were supplied with a complete linen outfit.

It is only a few years since Miss Linda Richards, an American Matron, first founded a nursing school in Tokio, where she found the "sweet little Japs" most apt pupils.

AN interesting letter has appeared in the *Weekly Times of India*, in connection with the correspondence which has taken place with regard to the question of plague nursing, signed by "A Member of the League of 'Bart's' Nurses." The letter is specially noticeable, as it is the first occasion on which we have seen the signature used for the purpose of showing that the writer is justified in speaking authoritatively with regard to matters connected with her own school.

IN a previous letter, a correspondent who adopted the pseudonym of "Someg," wrote as follows:—

How many nurses in Great Britain earn two guineas a week? Thousands are now unemployed, and would gladly take up service for eight shillings a week, if they could get employment. I am not speaking in hyperbole. Two of my own sisters who have done their five year course in Guy's and St. Bartholomew's Hospital, and served there as a matter of course as long as they could hold their appointments, went out into the world to earn their living as nurses, and with what consequence? The girls are glad to earn a pound a month, as typewriters after all their hospital training. As with doctors, not only in England but all over the world, so with nurses—it is a matter of sink or swim.

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