

## 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\* \* \* All communications must be duly authenticated with name and address, not for publication, but as evidence of good faith, and should be addressed to the Editor, 20, Upper Wimpole Street, W.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 regret that owing to extreme pressure upon our space we are unable to give the full result of the Prize Puzzle Competition for September. The winner of the prize is Miss Alice Butcher, of the Registered Nurses' Society, whose letter was the first opened containing the correct solution.

Our readers will remember the brave fight which Miss M. F. Rogers made whilst Superintendent Nurse at East Preston Union early in the present year. At the Local Government Board enquiry the counsel who appeared for the Guardians assured the Local Government Board Inspector that it was not true that they wished to get rid of the office of Superintendent Nurse, and that so soon as Miss Rogers left they would appoint another. It is a curious fact, however, that up to the present, although some eight months have elapsed, the Guardians have not done so, neither have they advertised for such an officer; neither has the Local Government Board as yet called upon them to do so.

We understand that the East Preston Board have had a considerable amount of trouble with the nursing department, so much so, that the Chairman of the Committee recently resigned his position, and refused to fall in with the pressure put upon him to reconsider his decision.

They have been wanting a nurse for some time, and, despite advertisements in nursing and local papers for two months past, they have as yet failed to secure suitable applicants. The reason for this is probably to be found in the form of the advertisement, which states that "applicants must be . . . prepared to carry out the duties of the office under the direction of the Matron." The Matron, it must be noted, is an untrained woman, and, as we have on previous occasions pointed out, trained nurses are chary of taking service under Boards which enforce this condition.

An important meeting was recently held in Paris by the male and female hospital attendants,

at which they demanded immediate permission to form a union, this permission being at present refused by the Prefect of Police, on the ground that no class of municipal servants is allowed to form a union. They also demand that, instead of being boarded and lodged as at present, they shall be free to board and lodge themselves, how and where they please. A result of granting this would be that their retiring pension which is at present calculated upon the amount of their salary, after deduction being made for the cost of their board and lodging, would be calculated upon the whole of their salaries without deduction. The meeting also urged the formation of nursing schools, payment during their eight days annual leave, and in the case of the male attendants during their two periods of military service, which last for twenty-eight and thirteen days. *M. Artreux*, a surveillant presided, and other *infirmiers* spoke at the meeting. The following resolution was carried unanimously:—

"The hospital attendants, both female and male, in this meeting, held on September 7th, 1901, in the great hall of the Labour Exchange, beg to thank the Trades' Committee for the efforts made on their behalf. The members invite all absent friends to join together with themselves in endeavouring to bring about as soon as possible the realization of their just claims."

At a meeting recently convened at Chicago, by representatives of the St. Luke's Training School and the Illinois Training School Alumnae Associations, to consider the advisability of establishing a state organization of nurses in Illinois, some hundred nurses attended, eager to forward the project. They represented as delegates fourteen training schools. The object of the meeting was stated by Dr. Hackett, temporary chairman, and an address was given by Miss McIsaac. It was followed by a keen discussion, in which the need of organization was acknowledged and urged by all. The following resolution was passed:—

"We, the nurses assembled, representing fourteen training schools in the State of Illinois, do hereby form an association to be known as the Illinois Graduate Nurses' Association, the primary object of which shall be to bring about State registration for Nurses."

Miss Harriet E. Fulmer, of the St. Luke's Alumnae, Superintendent of the Visiting Nurses' Association, was elected President of the new Society. The first regular meeting met last month, when the draft of a bill, asking the Legislature to require State examinations and registration for nurses was presented and discussed.

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