

It sometimes happens that as Editor of this Journal we receive communications beginning "Dear Sir," a style of address which we always resent. We notice in the current issue of the *Queen's Nurses' Magazine* that the Editor is similarly addressed, and that she takes the opportunity of stating that "this magazine is edited and managed entirely by Queen's nurses, and by no other persons, and if it is to continue must be supported by them also."

From its first issue this Magazine has borne the mark of professional control, and its high tone, broad outlook, and practical usefulness make it an invaluable means of communication between Queen's Nurses, while its cost—one shilling and threepence a year, including postage, for the three issues—is most moderate. It should be read by every Queen's Nurse, and as the salaries of such nurses are very modest, and as a rule there are many claims upon them, we would suggest to all Associations employing Queen's Nurses that they should become subscribers, and so help to keep their nurses in touch with the general body of these workers throughout the kingdom. The Magazine is, indeed, one of which they may all be proud. It has the advantage of an Editor who is not only a trained nurse, but who has had the liberal education of a cosmopolitan life, which tends to a wider outlook upon affairs. It is this wide outlook that nurses so often lack, and Queen's Nurses cannot too highly appreciate the cultured tone as well as the high journalistic standard which has always characterised their Magazine.

A most unique and charming concert was given on behalf of the Hammersmith and Fulham District Nursing Association, on May 1st, at 8.30, at the Royal Horticultural Hall, Westminster. The music was performed by the "Magpie Madrigal Society," and several distinguished artists and well-known amateurs gave vocal solos, as well as violin and piano-forte ones, but the main feature of the concert was the Choral Society itself. As one entered the enormous hall (which was quite full) one was struck by two things as the chorus stood on the platform—first, the colouring and grouping, the black and white (relieved by scarlet flowers in the ladies' dresses), which was to represent magpies, and was most effective, and secondly, the cultured faces of the performers, who sang faultlessly without any instrumental accompaniment, old English, French, Italian, and German Madrigals without the slightest accent or difficulty. Both the Madrigal Society and the Nursing Association are to be congratulated on such a brilliant success, which must have meant hard work to all concerned.

At the annual meeting of the Kent Nursing Institution, West Malling, at which Canon Hawley presided, it was stated by Mr. Bracher, who presented the 32nd annual report, that the Society was in a much more favourable position financially than at the commencement of the year. During 1906 the silver medal and bonus for eight years' service were granted to Nurses A. Surridge, A. Welham, and E. West, of Malling; and the bronze medal to Nurses A. Hunter and E. Lucas, of Malling; and Nurse Biggins, of Tunbridge Wells. Miss Mottram, Lady Superintendent of the Tunbridge Wells Home, had been presented with a silver gilt medal and gratuity of £10 on completing her eighth year of service, and the Committee recorded their sense of the capable and conscientious way in which both Lady Superintendents had performed their duties. Nursing on gratuitous or reduced terms had been rendered from Malling Home for 60 weeks, and from Tunbridge Wells Home for 130 weeks, the fees remitted being £113 17s. 3d. One nurse was supplied to the Hop-picking Mission Committee, and worked amongst the pickers at Nettlestead. Resolutions were passed with the object of strengthening the Lady Falmouth Memorial Fund in the direction of assisting country parishes in supporting district nurses.

In the last issue of *Unterm Lazaruskreuz* there is an interesting article by Dr. Esser on The Nurse—the right hand of the doctor. He points out that just as a general can only win a battle by having under him well trained officers, so the doctor is dependent on help in his fight against sickness. In a slight illness he depends on the patient carrying out his instructions, but in a severe one he would be helpless without a nurse to work under him. The modern requirements are compared with those of a decade ago, and, in especial, the difference of the medical outlook noted. Whereas the main object used to be to cure disease, it now is to prevent it.

The importance of care of the sick is proved by the small amount of ground gained against children's infectious diseases, whereas much has been won in the fight against epidemics amongst adults. Dr. Esser puts this down to the fact that the latter are mainly nursed in hospitals or by private nurses, whereas children are chiefly in the care of their mothers, who do not possess the knowledge to carry out the desired regulations.

[previous page](#)

[next page](#)