

ASSOCIATION OF TRAINED NURSES IN PUBLIC HEALTH WORK.

A Conference will be held on Saturday, July 12th, at 10, Orchard Street, at 3.30 p.m.

Speaker: Miss Patrick, Matron of the Training Centre, Babies of the Empire Society.

Subject: The Organisation of Public Health Work in New Zealand, with Special Relation to "The Royal Society for the Health of Women and Children."

INTERNATIONAL NOTE.

Fru Charlotte Norrie, of Copenhagen, writes full of joy for nurses in this country, anticipating the success at last of their Registration Bill. Fru Norrie has taken and read THE BRITISH JOURNAL OF NURSING from its first issue in 1888, and has bound it beautifully with her own hands. When the Editor visited Copenhagen in 1906 it was indeed a pleasurable surprise to find eighteen volumes of our Journal reposing on the shelves of this Danish lady.

NEW FOOTWEAR.

Messrs. Manfield & Sons, whose footwear is so much appreciated by so many nurses, have brought out a new shoe fabric which they have named "Sholin." A visit to their establishment at 59 and 60, St. Paul's Churchyard, E.C., will afford convincing proof of the charm of this fabric.

COMING EVENTS.

July 4th.—The Matrons' Council: Meeting and Garden Party, Edith Cavell Home, Coombe Head, Haslemere, by kind invitation of the Committee and Matron.

July 5th.—League of St. Bartholomew's Hospital Nurses. General Meeting, St. Bartholomew's Hospital. 2.30. Social Gathering, Great Hall. 4 p.m.

July 17th.—Society for State Registration of Trained Nurses: Annual Meeting, 11, Chandos Street, Cavendish Square, London, W. 4.30 p.m.

July 19th.—Central Committee for State Registration of Nurses: Meeting, Council Chamber, British Medical Association, Strand. 2.30 p.m.

SON AND HEIR.

When Jack was born, his mother cried, for joy
Unutterable! In her heart she hid it.
(The others should not say she overdid it.)
O! she was proud, this Mother of a Boy.

And marvelling much, as though the thing were new
And never another woman had achieved it,
She hovered o'er her joy, and scarce believed it;
And as she wondered, still the wonder grew.

As for Jack's Pater (not that she disowned him)
Some instinct warned him that his day was over;
T'was Jack's turn now to buzz amid the clover:
This atom in an instant had dethroned him.

(From "An Echo of the Spheres.")

KERNELS FROM CORRESPONDENCE.

C. P. S.: "I attended the College gathering at Manchester. It is a farce to call it a 'conference.' No independent member of the audience was permitted to express an opinion. Something was said in repudiation of the well-known coercion of the College Matrons in bringing pressure on their nurses to sign up and pay a guinea. A decided 'Hear, hear' came from some nurses in the hall, near where I sat, and the manner in which Miss Sparshott tried to find out who the 'traitors' were, by visiting our vicinity, was as amazing as it was amusing. Your reporter also noticed the scuttle from the platform when a lady asked for discussion on the ethical papers. How is that for ethics?"

Kensington Infirmary Nurse: "I joined the College on the urgent advice of my Matron, who is apparently convinced it will bring the Millennium, so far as the nursing world is concerned, and in our Christmas Leaflet it was stated as reason 3 why we should join:—

"In the Bill drafted by the College it is provided that the majority of the General Nursing Council which will keep the State Register must be Nurses, elected by the Nurses.' Can you tell me if this is provided in the College Bill or not?, as, if not, as was said at the meeting on Friday, our money has certainly been taken under false pretences."

[You do not say at what date you joined the College. We should say it was true if you joined between June, 1918, and May, 1919. But the Sub-Section II of Clause 5, which secured that five-sixths of the Nurses' representatives should be nurses, inserted in the Seventh Draft of the College Bill, has now been deliberately deleted. in the most cynical manner from Lord Goschen's Bill. But, as the College Company is a lay body and the Council has never made any pretence of consulting the nurses on any important matter whatever, it presumably feels quite secure in this last breach of faith. Don't forget you have signed an Agreement (if you are a member of the College) to be "removed from the Register . . . as the Council may in its discretion think proper," without any power of appeal. If you sign a serf contract, you cannot justly complain of being treated as such.—Ed.]

We have received many indignant letters on the tactics of the "Manchester Wreckers" associated with Mr. Leonard Lyle in the House of Commons last Friday. As the Bill stands adjourned we propose to hold over these communications until next week, when our last chance will have come and gone.

OUR PRIZE COMPETITION. QUESTION.

July 5th.—What would you get ready for a surgeon who wished to make a vaginal examination? How would you prepare the patient?

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