

last few weeks after 8.30 p.m. We congratulate all concerned, not forgetting the chimney sweep.

The second part of the programme was a short play, admirably acted by three of the Sisters. "Between the Soup and the Savoury." It is astonishing how much can happen in that short space of time.

Above stairs the lovers' quarrel, between Miss Angelina and her fiancée, the unsuspected cause being the sentimental kitchen-maid who, having no "young man" of her own, and goaded by the jeers of her fellow-servants, abstracts the love-letters written to Miss Angelina, and proudly reads them as those of 'Arold, thereby considerably impressing the "house" below stairs. Unfortunately, she has ultimately to admit "there ain't no 'Arold." Cook, kitchen-maid and parlour-maid were admirably played in this amusing little farce.

The Marylebone Hospital is apparently one of the very few Poor Law Hospitals where the supply of probationers is equal, and more than equal, to the demand. We learned from the Matron that the new probationers have six weeks' preliminary instruction in the Nurses' Home before admission to the wards. Also that they are practically trained on the subject matter defined in the Syllabus of the General Nursing Council for England and Wales. On all sides we hear that training is being carried out along these lines, and are proportionately astonished at the non-existent bogey which had scared some members of the Education Committee of the G.N.C., and made them afraid, apparently, of their own shadows. We wish Miss Cockrell were standing for election to the G.N.C. She would be a most popular candidate, but, like most Matrons keen about the efficiency of their own pupils, she finds the management of a large Poor-Law Hospital, the care of its patients, and the training of its nurses sufficient occupation without adding the onerous duties entailed by a seat on the G.N.C. We agree. That is why past Matrons with knowledge and leisure are so valuable as members of the Council, and it is the reason why the whole personnel of the American State Boards of Nurse Examiners is composed of experienced Registered Nurses not actively engaged as Superintendents of Training Schools.

M. B.

### INSTRUCTION IN PRACTICAL PSYCHOLOGY.

We are asked to notify that Miss Anna Maud Hallam hopes to give a further Course of Instruction in Practical Psychology, or Human Efficiency, early in January. Many enquiries from nurses have reached Miss Hallam from all over England, asking if it is possible to buy her lectures, and begging her to lecture in the provinces.

Miss Hallam takes the greatest interest in nurses in this country and proposes to charge them the reduced fee of £1 for the Course of Instruction.

For date and place a stamped and addressed envelope should be sent to Miss Hallam (Secretary), Hotel Cecil, Strand, London, W.C.

## THE CENTRAL COMMITTEE FOR THE STATE REGISTRATION OF NURSES.

At a meeting of the Central Committee for the State Registration of Nurses (which is recognised in the Schedule to the Nurses' Registration Act, 1919), held at 431, Oxford Street, W., on December 16th, the following Resolution was unanimously agreed, and it was directed that a copy be forwarded to Sir A. Griffith-Boscawen, Minister of Health:—

### RESOLUTION.

That the Minister of Health be asked to receive a deputation from the Central Committee for the State Registration of Nurses, mentioned in the Schedule to the Nurses' Registration Act, 1919, to place before him the following points in relation to the administration of the Nurses' Registration Act, 1919.

In the opinion of the Committee:—

(1) The conduct of business of the General Nursing Council for England and Wales is lacking in efficiency.

(2) The "prescribed training" provided for in the Act under Section 3 Sub-section (2) (a) and (b) unanimously agreed upon by the General Nursing Council in May, 1921, and incorporated in the "Syllabus of Lectures and Demonstrations for Education and Training in General Nursing"—submitted for the signature of the Minister of Health on October 14th of that year—has never yet been approved; with the result that it cannot be enforced under the Act in such Training Schools as are approved by the Council, although a number of Schools have informally adopted it. As a consequence the date of the first compulsory Examination to be held under the authority of the Council has twice been postponed.

The nurses claim that under the Nurses' Registration Act they have a right to this "prescribed training" in approved schools.

(3) So far reciprocity with the General Nursing Council for Scotland has not been established as provided for in the Act, as Scotland refuses to agree to Rule 9A. The consent of the General Nursing Council for Scotland should have been secured before the Rule was submitted for the signature of the late Minister of Health, but this was not done.

(4) The Central Committee takes most serious exception to a Rule agreed to on Friday, December 15th, and only carried by a majority of two votes, by the General Nursing Council, the effect of which, if approved, would be to annul the small protection given under the Act, for which thousands of nurses have paid the prescribed fee for admission to the General Part of the Register.

This Rule makes it possible to place persons on the General Part of the Register with no training whatever in general nursing, and from institutions for which the Council will not take responsibility.

This raises the question of the necessity for any Special Registers, and cuts (1) at the root of the protection of the public from inefficient nurses, and (2) of Registered Nurses from economic damage.

Signed on behalf of the Central Committee for the State Registration of Nurses,

ETHEL G. FENWICK,

*Hon. Secretary.*

431, Oxford Street,  
London, W. 1.

December 23rd, 1922.

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