

It is especially requested that Members will notify any change of address to the secretary, even if it be but temporary. A halfpenny card will convey the notice, and thereby save much disappointment amongst Members from non-receipt of the journal, etc., and also lighten the office work, by ensuring the immediate receipt of any communication despatched; very many of which are now returned two and three times for re-direction, and finally are transmitted to the office from the Dead Letter Office. A list of Members whose addresses are wanted appears in the August *Nurses' Journal*, but at present has excited no response.

Members will be glad to know that in view of the approaching winter, arrangements have been made for soup to be served after twelve (noon) in the Nurses' Club Room, at the small charge of 3d. a cup, an addition to the tariff, which, it is hoped, will be appreciated by Members and their friends.

I am especially begged to make a further appeal on behalf of interest being enlisted to secure further votes for Miss Van der Ben, at the November election for the Royal Hospital for Incurables, and will gladly supply cards stating the case to any one applying for the same.

ALICE RAVENHILL,  
Secretary of the Corporation.

### Nursing Echoes.

\* \* *All communications must be duly authenticated with name and address, not for publication, but as evidence of good faith, and addressed to the Editor, 20, Upper Wimpole Street, W.*



WE announced last week that the Editor of the NURSING RECORD had undertaken to arrange the Private Nurses' Stall at the forthcoming Bazaar in December, for the funds of the Royal British Nurses' Association, and it has been decided that part of the stall shall consist of a magnificent "Golden Shoe," over which the proverbial "Old Woman" shall preside, assisted by the elder members of her numerous family, and that they will dispose of (in the shape of dollies) the innumerable children with which "She did not know what to do." A kind friend has already guaranteed a shoe of great capacity, and it is hoped that others will keep it full for three days. Many lovely dolls have already been promised, but *pour encourager les autres* it is the intention of the Editor to offer prizes, a full list of which, with regulations, will appear in next week's issue.

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THE Medical Profession has its code of ethics, why should not the Nursing Profession follow its

excellent example in drawing up such a code? The Matrons' Council would find legitimate and useful work in defining Nursing ethics, and should certainly define the Nurses' duty towards her superior officer—the medical man—which many Nurses trained, under lax discipline, have hitherto failed to grasp.

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THE following is the proposed code of ethics for the Alumnae Association of the Illinois Training School for Nurses at the Cooke, County and Presbyterian Hospitals in Chicago, sent to us by an American correspondent, and it contains many useful suggestions:—

#### PREAMBLE.

Inasmuch as every member of the Nursing Profession partakes of the honour in which it is held, is entitled to its privileges and immunities, and profits by the untiring labours of her predecessors and associates it is her duty in her turn to elevate the position of the Nursing Profession, and by every honourable exertion to advance it.

ARTICLE I.—LOYALTY, Sec. 1. It is the first duty of a Nurse to be loyal to the school from which she was graduated. If a Nurse remains long enough in a school to accept its diploma, she owes it her allegiance and should avoid adverse criticism on its management. A Nurse can best show her loyalty by her personal conduct, and by the character of her professional work. As an expression of loyalty, a Nurse should always wear the complete uniform of the school when on duty.

Sec. 2. Every member of the Alumnae Association should feel it a duty to further the interests of the Society, not only by attendance and the payment of fees, but by her support of the work proposed by it.

Sec. 3. A Nurse should avoid unkind criticism of other Nurses, especially to doctors and patients.

Sec. 4. The unity and dignity of the Nursing Profession demand that members of one school should cultivate a courteous recognition of other schools, their work and their graduates.

ARTICLE II.—ENGAGEMENTS. Sec. 1. Engagements, whether written or verbal, should be regarded always as legal contracts, to be broken only by the Nurse, when entirely unavoidable, or for the maintenance of self-respect.

Sec. 2. When a Nurse is called to an urgent case, because the Nurse already engaged is not at hand, she ought, unless her assistance be desired, to resign the patient to the latter immediately upon her arrival.

Sec. 3. When a Nurse is called to the patient of another Nurse in consequence of the sickness or absence of the latter, she ought, upon the recovery or return of the regular Nurse, and with the consent of the patient, to surrender the case.

ARTICLE III.—FEES. Sec. 1. It should be deemed a point of honor by every member of this Association to adhere to the fee schedule with as much uniformity as varying circumstances will permit.

ARTICLE IV.—DUTIES OF A NURSE TO PATIENTS.

Sec. 1. Every patient committed to the care of a Nurse should be treated with attention, steadiness and humanity. Reasonable indulgence should be granted to mental imbecility and the caprices of the sick. Secrecy and confidential intercourse to which Nurses are admitted should be used with discretion, and with the most scrupulous regard to fidelity and honor. The obligation of secrecy extends beyond the period of professional service; none of the privacies of personal and domestic life, no infirmity of disposition, or flaw of character, observed during professional services should ever be divulged by the Nurse except when imperatively required to do so. The same strict observance should be carried out regarding the patient's ailments.

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