

I have raised the standard of training to three years, and the number of beds to 41, and in everything I have done I have kept steadily in view the interests of the Royal British Nurses' Association.

I have most regularly attended the Council meetings at great inconvenience to myself, and at great expense, which I could ill afford, and now, at the end of seven years' hard work, I retire from the Council without the question being asked as to whether there is anyone in this Hospital who could represent it, whilst there are 13 or 14 Nurses selected from the Middlesex Hospital, many of whom, I dare say, are only recently elected members.

Probably there are many other Matrons who have had the same experience as myself, but I do not think it just or right, and, as a member of the Council, I cannot let the new Council list be sent out to the members of the Corporation without offering my protest. I am sure no great work can prosper unless strict justice is maintained. Believe me,

Yours very truly,

CHARLOTTE OKELL,
Member General Council, R.B.N.A.

The Infirmary, Bridgwater,
April 27th, 1896.

To Mrs. Okell (Matron), Bridgwater Infirmary, Somerset.

DEAR MADAM,—I am directed by the Chairman of the Executive Committee to acknowledge your letter of the 27th of April, which was laid before that body at its meeting on Friday, and in reply to state that the balloting list for the General Council 1896-7 has been approved and adopted by the Council, and is on the point of being sent out to members; the Executive Committee therefore have no power to alter it.

I am further directed to state that you will probably have an opportunity at the Annual Meeting of suggesting the name of a Nurse for election, to fill any vacancy which may have arisen in the meantime from inability or refusal to serve on the part of some of those now nominated.

I am, dear madam,
Faithfully yours,
ALICE RAVENHILL,
Secretary of the Corporation.
per E.G.

17, Old Cavendish Street,
Oxford Street, London, W.
May 4th, 1896.

[We feel sure that all honourable members of the Royal British Nurses' Association will sympathise with Mrs. Okell in her protest against the policy of the Hon. Officers in thrusting upon the Association the unjustifiable list for the new Council, to which we have already alluded.—ED.]

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 All communications must be duly authenticated with name and address, not for publication, but as evidence of good faith, and should be addressed to the Editor, 20, Upper Wimpole Street, W.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 have pleasure in congratulating Miss Dalrymple Hay on having won the Gold Medal, as a result of the examination for senior Nurses recently held at St. Bartholomew's Hospital. Miss N. Bicknell, who is a B.A. of the London University, has won the prize of books which is awarded to the Probationer who is most successful in the examination held at the close of the first year in Hospital.

* * *
THE Local Government Board have called upon the St. Olave's Board of Guardians to make a full report as to their reasons for suspending Miss Marian M. Evans from her duties as Matron of the Infirmary at Rotherhithe. Among the charges the Guardians bring against Miss Evans is want of co-operation with the Visiting Committee. With regard to this, Miss Evans wrote to the Local Government Board:—"It has not appeared to me advisable or conducive to efficiency or discipline that individual members of the Visiting Committee should take tea in a Nurse's duty room, and keep her from her patients; or that members of the Committee should be smoking in the Nurse's sitting-room at midnight; or that young Nurses and Probationers should go to smoking concerts (even though Guardians and officers of the Infirmary were present), and remain out until after midnight; or that Nurses should have a general pass to remain out until 11.30 p.m."

* * *
Miss Evans has petitioned the Local Government Board for an inquiry, so that the matter being *sub judice*, we are precluded from making any comments, beyond expressing our high sense of the excellent work done by Miss Evans not only at St. Olave's Infirmary, but at the Stockwell Infirmary, the Northern Hospital, Liverpool, and in other positions of administration and responsibility.

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