

to have been nearly well; but her temperature would insist upon running up, when all apparent cause for it so behaving had ceased. After a good deal of cross questioning, however, Nurse found out that patient's friends were giving her a little drop of something to drink, and that patient was in the habit of sitting up in bed helping her husband tie up dried sprats into bundles. Nurse made her sensible of the harm that was being done, and she fortunately was wise enough to give up both the beer and the business, with the result that she was soon well and able to be up and about again.

The Sister who superintends this district has lately been much cheered by observing that the people, rough as they are, are very warm-hearted, and thoroughly appreciate a really sympathetic person. They like to be allowed to talk and to express their gratitude by saying, "Will you accept of a pair of 'addicks?" This is rather trying, because, after some hours visiting in the little alleys off Tabard Street, you naturally feel that you can never touch a morsel of fish again.

Royal British Nurses' Association.

(Incorporated by Royal Charter.)



THE *Nurses' Journal*, or rather the organ of the Hon. Officials of the Association, is again before us, and as usual we are compelled from a sense of justice to expose the partisan manner in which the Editor, Miss de Pledge, Matron of the Chelsea Infirmary, conducts this quarterly periodical. Our readers have been made acquainted with the most unfair list of members drawn up by the Hon. Officers in sub-committee for the new Council, giving thirteen seats out of thirty on the Sisters' and Nurses' list to Middlesex Hospital, and five to the Chelsea Infirmary, the former Hospital already having four seats and the latter Institution two.

Miss de Pledge writes in the *Nurses' Journal* :—

"We must remind our readers of their responsibilities with regard to the voting paper which accompanies this issue of the *Journal*. The list embraces the names of those members, nominated by the General Council, whose turn it is to serve on the next Council. Much anxious thought and consideration have been given to the subject, and the proposed list is one that must commend itself to all impartial readers of the *Journal*, for the conspicuous fairness and ability with which it has been drawn up. To ensure the return of the members nominated, it is

imperative that the voting paper should be *returned signed* to the Office, whether any alteration is made in it *or not*, as otherwise the vote is lost. Much trouble will be saved by the early return of the ballot paper."

We must take exception to Miss de Pledge's estimate of "conspicuous fairness" and substitute "jobbery" for the word "ability"; and we would again urge all honourable members to protest against this "packing" of our governing body by Nurses under the control of the Hon. Officers, by erasing the names of the eighteen candidates from the Middlesex Hospital and Chelsea Infirmary out of thirty vacancies, as these Institutions are already fully represented on the Council. We append the list for the guidance of members, as with "conspicuous ability" the Hon. Officers have omitted to state from which Institutions the new members are selected; thus all votes must be given in the dark, as some of the candidates have quite recently joined the Association, and their names do not appear in the Register for 1896.

PROPOSED LIST OF SISTERS AND NURSES.

L. V. Callender	Middlesex Hospital.
F. Cox	"
A. M. Edwards	"
R. Pratt	"
P. Pugsley	"
C. Stuart	"
M. Taylor	"
M. M. Wethered... ..	"
A. Winwood	"
E. Hall	"
S. Hughes	"
T. Newlands	"
L. Newman	"
S. Allbrook	Chelsea Workhouse Infirmary.
M. Brown	"
M. Humphries	"
G. Jackson	"
F. Ponter... .. .	"

In dissecting the "conspicuous fairness" of the new Council, Miss De Pledge kindly informs us that the Metropolitan Workhouses and Infirmarys have *thirteen* representatives, *eight* of whom it is proposed to select from the Nursing Staff of the Chelsea Infirmary. We wonder if Miss De Pledge's colleagues in the other Institutions under the Poor Law quite appreciate the "conspicuous fairness" of the situation!

This arrangement is what a contemporary would describe as a "nice little family party." We observe, however, that the name of Mr. Stephen Moore, the Medical Superintendent of the Chelsea Infirmary, has been struck off the Council list, and this although the By-laws constituting the Council, gives the Executive Committee no such authority. We presume that the removal of the name of this gentleman—widely respected in the Nursing world—will be thoroughly understood by all medical men *under the circumstances!*

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