

### Coming Events.

*September 16th to 22nd.*—Meeting of the British Association at Liverpool. Sir Joseph Lister, Bart., F.R.C.S., President, will preside.

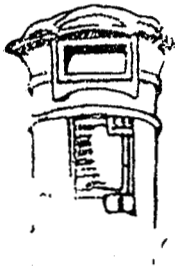
*September 18th to 25th.*—Confectioners' and Bakers' Exhibition at the Royal Agricultural Hall.

*September 19th.*—International Congress for Women's Work in Berlin.

*September 21st.*—British Archæological Association's Annual Congress opens in London. Receptions at the Mansion House and the Guildhall.

Princess Mary Adelaide, Duchess of Teck, opens the Bracknell Art Exhibition in aid of the Funds of the Royal Berkshire Hospital, Reading.

*September 28th.*—Introductory Lecture, "The Education, Status and Emoluments of Sanitary Inspectors," by A. Wynter Blyth, M.R.C.S., F.I.C., F.C.S., Barrister-at-Law, Med. Off. of Health, St. Marylebone. The Sanitary Institute Margaret Street, W., 8 p.m. Admission Free.



### Letters to the Editor.

Notes, Queries, &c.

*Whilst cordially inviting communications upon all subjects for these columns, we wish it to be distinctly understood that we do not IN ANY WAY hold ourselves responsible for the opinions expressed by our correspondents.*

#### CUCKOOS.

*To the Editor of "The Nursing Record."*

MADAM,—It is surely time that the loyal members of the Royal British Nurses' Association combined in some way to express with no uncertain sound their views as to the manner in which their Journal is conducted. Instead of the Journal being, as it should be, representative of the views of all sections of the Association, and a means whereby those members who are not present at its meetings may obtain a true and unvarnished account of its proceedings, it at present represents the views of eight persons, and the members of the Royal British Nurses' Association pay—or run into debt as the case may be—for a biased and misleading version of facts.

Who, for instance, would imagine that the account given in the NURSING RECORD, and that in the *Nurses' Journal* of the Annual Meeting of the Royal British Nurses' Association referred to one and the same thing. Who again, wishes to pay for the issue of a journal which publishes a long and personal attack upon an individual member, that individual, moreover, being the founder of the Association, and refuses to insert the reply to this attack; and further, actually submits this reply to the writer of the letter referred to.

I should like much to know if Mr. Brudenell Carter's

letter which appeared in the May number of the journal was "submitted" to your inspection, and if you signified to the Editorial Committee that you had "no objection whatever to its publication." If not, then the most elementary justice—"the virtue which consists in according to every man what is his due"—is evidently not observed by the Editorial Committee of the *Nurses' Journal*, and the Journal becomes an organ for the abuse and intimidation of members. In this case I distinctly object to being a party to its issue.

Perhaps the NURSING RECORD will be able to point out some way in which those of us who take exception to our Journal voicing the mind of one section of the Association only may be relieved from contributing to the cost of its production.

May I further add that, as a country member, the parables of nature appeal to one, and there is one phenomenon which appears to me to represent very accurately the position of affairs in the Royal British Nurses' Association at the present time. It is doubtless known to most of your readers that there is one bird (the cuckoo) which, when the breeding season comes on, builds no nest. It waits until the industry, perseverance, and skill of another bird has built one for itself. It then takes an opportunity of laying its eggs amongst those of the owner of the nest. In due time, owing to the fostering care of the parent birds, the cuckoo eggs with the others are hatched.

Then comes the last act in the play. The young cuckoos turn out the nestlings of the rightful owners, and take possession of the nest. Are we to have this parable enacted—the last act included—in the annals of the Royal British Nurses' Association?

Yours truly,

A LOVER OF JUSTICE.

[We believe that a protest will be made at the Executive Committee, at the General Council, and, if needful, more publicly still, against the principle of permitting one member of the Association to make a malicious and unprovoked attack upon another member, in the official Journal of the Association, and suppressing the reply of the person so attacked.—ED.]

#### PRACTICAL HELP.

*To the Editor of "The Nursing Record."*

MADAM,—I have the NURSING RECORD numbers from January 4th to June 6th, 1896, also the complete volumes for 1894 and 1895, which I should like to dispose of for any reasonable sum. If you could let it be known in your paper I should be obliged. I still take your paper, but since June I have sent it regularly each week to a friend in Central Asia, on the Gilgalé Road. She writes to say how she looks forward to it, and the help it is to her, being so far from civilisation.

Yours faithfully,

NURSE N.

[We thank our kind correspondent for making the RECORD known amongst her friends. If each reader who does not bind her copy would do likewise it would be of much practical assistance to us in our arduous work, and would much facilitate the advance of the principles of Nursing progress and reform which this Journal advocates.—ED.]

[previous page](#)

[next page](#)