

tempt to place them upon the Register of Trained Nurses, unless they conform to the present standard, must not be permitted.

It will be remembered that, at the July meeting of the General Council of the Royal British Nurses' Association, a Sub-Committee—consisting of Dr. O. Wood and the Hon. Officers, was appointed to deal with the question of the Registration of mental Nurses; and that, at the General Council meeting on the 16th October, Dr. Wood read the report from this Sub-Committee, in which it was suggested that Lunatic Attendants, who had been working for three years in recognised Asylums of more than forty beds, or for two years in Asylums and one year in a General Hospital, should be admitted to registration and membership of the Royal British Nurses' Association.

This method of procedure, in the General Council appointing a Sub-Committee to deal with the work of registration—already delegated formally by the Executive Committee to the Registration Board—was irregular—and therefore suspicious. Our Charter directs, under the heading of "Sub-Committees," that:—"The Executive Committee may appoint such Sub-Committees, or delegate to them such duties as from time to time shall seem expedient," &c.

The appointment of this irregular Sub-Committee immediately gave rise to the suspicion that some effort was to be made to provide Registration in relation to mental Nurses which would be repugnant to those members of the Board who have striven from its inception to raise the standard required for Registration.

One thing is quite obvious, and that is, that any suggestion to place upon the Register of Trained Nurses upon any other regulation than that now in force—that applicants for registration must have passed three years in Hospitals, one at least of which must have been spent in a General Hospital of over 40 beds—would be unjust to the trained Nurses who have paid a high fee for the benefit of having their names entered on the "Register of Trained Nurses," and unjust to those Nurses who, not having spent three complete years in Hospitals, have been refused registration; and, in our opinion, any attempt to enforce such a scheme without a General Meeting of members should be contested.

The fact that the *ex-officio* Matrons have been deprived, by the dishonourable repudiation of the agreement made with them, of their seats on the Council, by the Hon. Officers; and that now, upon the initiative of Mr. Fardon, the Medical Hon. Secretary, they have been deprived of their *ex-officio* seats upon the Registration Board, should arouse those members of the Royal British Nurses' Association who possess any sense of professional honour, to contest any attempt upon the part of the present official clique to lower the status of Registered Nurses on the standard of Registration.

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You can tell it by its Dainty Fragrance.

## 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 to acknowledge with thanks a cheque for one guinea, towards the funds of Sir Julian Goldsmid's Home of Rest for Nurses, kindly sent by Miss Julia Hurlston, M.R.B.N.A., being the amount awarded to her for her Prize Nursing Notes by the NURSING RECORD.

IT is satisfactory that wisdom has prevailed at the Councils of the Vestry of St. George's, Southwark, and that their newly-appointed lady Sanitary Inspector has had the good taste to decline to wear the suggested Hospital uniform to which she was not entitled. A sum of £5 has been granted to the lady "to purchase a uniform to be approved by the Public Health Committee." The judgment of Paris will fade into insignificance beside the serious array of gentlemen composing the Committee, who in all solemnity will be called upon to "approve" the uniform the lady selects. It is safe to affirm that the smaller waisted and more "tailor-made" a costume is, the more it appeals to average masculinity—which is by no means artistic.

WE notice that the advocates of the continuance of the Hospital Saturday street collections, among their other suggestions, recommend that "collecting ladies should, as far as possible, adopt the dress of a Hospital Nurse." We sincerely trust that no woman will do anything of the kind, unless her training in Hospital entitles her to do so. At a Fancy Fair it is permissible to wear any dress one chooses, because everyone recognises that it is a matter of masquerading. But in a street collection there is no such understanding. And not even in the cause of charity is any woman justified in adopting the uniform of a Hospital Nurse, even for one day, unless she has the right to wear that honourable dress. Again we would raise our voices against the popular tendency to put women "in uniform" when there is no possible reason why they should wear it. Has it ever occurred to the officials of the Hospital Saturday street collections to clothe the male collectors in surplices? If not, why put the ladies in aprons?

[previous page](#)

[next page](#)