

"not been received in a registered envelope." If this is a fact it is curious that they did not at once inform Miss Breay of her oversight, because, when the statement in question was made, Miss Breay immediately produced the Post Office Certificate of Registration of her letter. The sole and only object of providing that any notice of motion should be "registered" was of course to provide that it should be safely received by the Secretary. The contents of the letter could not become one whit more or less important, because the envelope containing them had a blue or red pencil mark on the outside, or because twopence extra had been paid for its postage. The Post Office authorities perhaps had omitted to use the blue pencil in this particular instance; but the Certificate that the letter had been duly registered is not only legal proof that the letter *was* registered, but would have convinced any fair-minded Chairman that the terms of the Bye-law had been accurately complied with. Even if it had not, there are very few Chairmen who would have been so apprehensive of a vote of censure being proposed on his own conduct and on that of his friends, as to have burked its discussion by employing such a miserable quibble.

Sir Julian Goldsmid Home of Rest for Nurses at Brighton.

WE have pleasure in acknowledging a donation of 10s. 6d. from Miss Clara Hind, Matron of the Clapham Maternity Hospital, towards the funds of the Home of Rest for Nurses at Brighton, with which she says:—"I have much pleasure in forwarding 10s. 6d. to be applied to the Home of Rest for Nurses, the excellence of which my own Nurses have had ample opportunity of testing." Such gratitude is greatly appreciated by those who carry on the work of the Home, and we venture to remind our readers that an appeal is now being made for £5,000 as an Endowment Fund, £1,000 of which has already been secured. Contributions may be sent to the Treasurer, Dr. Bedford Fenwick, 20, Upper Wimpole Street, W.

Lectures on Elementary Physiology in relation to Medical Nursing.

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LECTURE IV.—THE EXCRETORY ORGANS:

(Continued from page 63.)

ONE of the most common consequences of kidney disease is the condition known as Dropsy, which in brief is the presence of water in the tissues beneath the skin, chiefly of the lower extremities but, in advanced cases, also of other parts of the body. This condition is known to take place in diseases of the Liver and of the Heart, and in the latter it represents an effort of the blood vessels to relieve themselves from a difficulty in propelling their contents onwards, either in consequence of some pressure upon the large veins of the abdomen or because of some obstruction within the Heart. The exact method in which the water is poured out from the vessels, and how much of it is derived from the lymphatic, as well as from the blood-vessels, are matters with which we need not here concern ourselves. For all practical Nursing purposes, it is sufficient to remember that the presence of dropsy implies a grave interference either with the constitution of the blood, making it more prone to exude its watery constituents from the blood-vessels, or else some pressure or obstruction in the circulation; and furthermore that dropsy rarely if ever occurs to any marked extent without organic disease being far advanced. In anæmic girls, it is by no means unusual for swelling of the hands and feet or legs to occur simply in consequence of the depreciated constitution of their blood; and with improvement in the general health the dropsy disappears. Then again, both men and women suffering from exhausting illnesses, or after great losses of blood, may, for the same reason, suffer from temporary dropsy, but, here again, as the health improves, the local condition will disappear. In many patients, suffering from advanced kidney disease, the skin assumes a waxy pallor which is very characteristic especially when accompanied, as it often is, by puffiness of the lower eyelids. As a general rule, in patients suffering from kidney disease, this puffiness of the eyelids is most observable when they wake in the morning; probably in consequence of the fact that,

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