

Council in October, 1897, that a list drawn up by Mr. Fardon, the Medical Hon. Secretary, and Medical Superintendent of Middlesex Hospital, was accepted by the Executive Committee, filling eighteen of these vacancies as follows—thirteen Nurses from the Middlesex Hospital and five from the Chelsea Infirmary, besides those members who already represented these two favoured Institutions on the General Council, so that the vote can be swamped by this *clique* at the official will. To talk, therefore, about any measure being popular because it is “unanimously adopted” by a Council so composed, is an insult to the intelligence of the members and the general public, and we have no hesitation in saying that the composition of the present Council was a species of jobbery, for which we consider Mr. Fardon must be held most blameworthy.

THE COCKPIT.

It is not surprising to learn that the behaviour of certain members of the General Council has earned for it the unenviable appellation of the “cockpit.” What with the unseemly interruptions to free discussion, the vulgar vituperation and personal abuse, thumping of umbrellas, and flaming outbursts of temper; the behaviour of some members at these meetings has become a public scandal, and, in the opinion of gentlewomen, they are gatherings “totally unfit for them to attend.”

DEPRECIATION OF THE TRAINED NURSE.

The policy responsible for this disgraceful condition of affairs, which has its motive in the determined depreciation of the trained Nurse by depriving independent members in the profession of a voice in the management of their own affairs, may be gathered from the following significant opinion expressed by Sir Dyce Duckworth in a letter to Dr. W. Banks on Nursing matters and quoted in last week's *Lancet* by Dr. Rentoul when considering the Midwife question. Sir Dyce writes:—“In truth it is a very serious matter, and it rests with us to put a stop to this absurd movement. Nurses are now taught far too much and are ceasing to be the use they are intended for. Nurses are now taught a smattering of medicine and much else that unfits them to do the plain duties of a Nurse. I have good reason to know all that is in the air just now *re* women in relation to all parts of our profession, and I feel sure we must make a firm stand at once and stop this cant and nonsense that is so prevalent.

DELICIOUS	MAZAWATTEE	TEA
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A Guarantee of Purity.

“ROTTEN EGGS.”

It is now some thirty years ago since the pioneer women medical students were pelted with rotten eggs by the male students of Sir Dyce Duckworth's *alma mater* in Edinburgh. We trained Nurses, in demanding a curriculum of education which shall enable us to perform our legitimate duties to the sick intelligently and not merely mechanically, are passing through our “rotten egg” stage, and no doubt shall survive the bombardment, to the benefit of the community—as the woman doctor and the University woman have done before us.

On dit that at certain of the London Hospitals the *yashmak* is to be added to the uniform outfit of the Nursing staffs, and that a committee composed of certain members of the medical faculty at which Dame Partington presides, are in earnest consultation as to the quantity and quality of the garment. It is well that Mr. Hall Caine “pierced the veil” for copy in the Nursing world before this momentous question was decided.

Answers to Prize Questions.

OF the answers we have received to this month's Prize Questions those sent by Miss Mabel Leaver, 6, Hervey Road, Blackheath, have obtained the highest number of marks. We therefore print her replies.

The answers sent by Miss E. Newman, Tunbridge Wells; Miss Lucy C. Cooper, Brighton; “Excelsior”; Miss Halkett, Pitfirrane, N.B., and Miss A. V. Stewart, York County Hospital, deserve honourable mention, and we hope they will all compete again in answer to the new questions to be found on page 84.

PRIZE QUESTIONS.

I.—What are the three chief objections to the Registration of Asylum Attendants as Trained Nurses?

Firstly, admitting Asylum Attendants to the Register of Trained Nurses would not benefit Nursing as a profession, and it would be unfair to register untrained persons (the majority of Asylum Attendants are untrained) with Nurses who have spent time and money on their training. If an ordinary Asylum Attendant could write Reg. Nurse, M.R.B.N.A., after her name it would enable unqualified persons to undersell fully qualified Nurses more often than at present obtains.

If Asylum Attendants are admitted, Nurses having been in a fever or any special Hospital for three years, being untrained in any general work, could not fairly be excluded. Reg. Nurse, M.R.B.N.A., would then guarantee no fixed standard of training.

Secondly, it would ruin the Association, because fully qualified Nurses will not join a society which registers the unqualified, and those who have already joined will probably resign their membership should Asylum Attendants be admitted; so instead of increasing, fees would decrease.

Thirdly, it would mislead the public, who, as a rule, do not closely inquire where or how their Nurse was trained.

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