

Midwives amongst its members all told, and that it has no powers to deal with the control of Midwives.

Apparently, however, the R.B.N.A. will never learn wisdom. Its plan of action, during the tenure of office of Mr. Fardon and the present Medical Hon. Officers appears to be to wait till others have accomplished the work to which they have set their hand, and then to try to secure for themselves the result of this work. It is little wonder that this policy does not command the respect and confidence of self respecting women, and that only four nurses applied for membership at the meeting of the Executive Committee in March.

Legal Matters.

THE ISOLATION OF PRIVATE PATIENTS.

A matter of considerable public interest was last week brought up in the High Court before the Lord Chief Justice, Mr. Justice Darling, and Mr. Justice Channell.

Mr. Schultess Young said he was instructed to move under section 124 of the Public Health Act for a rule *nisi* for a writ of *certiorari* directed to Mr. Jones, a magistrate for the County of Surrey, to bring up an order of his with a view to its being quashed as being made without proper evidence and behind the back of the applicant, Mr. C. J. Quelch. This gentleman had in his house at Wallington, Surrey, his son, Mr. William Charles Quelch, who was suffering from small-pox. The son was in the house with his mother and a hospital nurse, and his room was isolated from the rest of the house by means of carbolic sheets. Nobody except those attending him went near him. The Medical Officer of Health, however, had certified that Mr. Quelch, jun., was suffering from a dangerous disease, and was without proper lodging and accommodation, and on that—Mr. Quelch, sen., not being before him—the magistrate had ordered the patient's removal to a hospital. Mr. Quelch, sen., had prevented that order being carried out, and had now been summoned for obstructing its execution. Counsel said he had affidavits from medical men which showed conclusively that the patient had proper lodging and accommodation.

The court refused to grant a writ of *certiorari* on the ground that the magistrate had evidence on which he could act, and, therefore, it was not a proper case for such a remedy.

The question of what constitutes efficient isolation is one upon which it is certainly right that the Medical Officer of Health should use his discretion in the public interest, and the magistrate could scarcely do otherwise than act in accordance with his opinion.

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.*



Miss Isla Stewart, President of the League, will preside.

Princess Henry of Battenberg has offered the use of her apartments at Kensington Palace for the annual meeting of the Colonial Nursing Association on July 9th.

The Annual General Meeting of the League of St. Bartholomew's Nurses will take place at the hospital on Saturday, June 21st, when

Miss Isla Stewart, President of the League, will preside.

We are glad to note that the Chairman of the Royal National Pension Fund for Nurses, Mr. Everard A. Hambro, stated at the Annual Meeting that the Fund "is not a Pension Fund in any sense of the word." We have never been able to understand why this Fund, into which nurses pay, as into any insurance society, for the benefits which they receive, on a business basis, should be termed a pension fund, for the term certainly conveys to the uninitiated that they are the recipients of public charity. Now that we have it on the authority of the Chairman that it is not a Pension Fund in any sense, surely some steps will be taken to adopt a more self-respecting name in the future.

Miss Pauline Peter, not Miss Rosalind Paget as announced last week, has been elected as a member of the Council of the R.N.P.F. as a representative of the annuitants and policy holders.

At the last meeting of the Edmonton Guardians a most satisfactory report was received from Mr. J. R. Lunn, F.R.C.S., Medical Superintendent of the Marylebone Infirmary, respecting the examination of five nurses who had been trained at the Edmonton Infirmary. The Chairman said that Mr. Lunn had subjected the nurses to a most severe and searching test, written and oral, and that the result was most creditable to all the parties concerned. Dr. Benjafield, their own Medical Officer, had been a most painstaking and energetic teacher, and the Lady Superintendent, Miss Franklin, devoted great time and patience in teaching and assisting them in their studies. He moved that the Board pass a vote of congratula-

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