

tion can be obtained of Mr. Shrimpton, Westminster Chambers, 3, Victoria Street, S.W. I am sure this most practical charity will commend itself to all my readers who believe in the old proverb, "Prevention is better than cure."

PRINCESS LOUISE (Marchioness of Lorne) showed, yet once again, her sympathy with the Ladies' Work Society, by presiding herself last week at one of the stalls of a sale of work, done by the Members, held at the house of Mrs. Mackay, Buckingham Gate. Many well-known ladies of the aristocracy and patronesses of the Society also honoured the sale with their presence, in particular the Dowager Marchioness of Waterford, the Marchioness of Abergavenny, Victoria Countess of Yarborough, &c. The Society gained a silver medal at the Paris Exhibition; and the show of work was beautiful, both in designs and colouring. Some of the former were designed by H.R.H. herself, whose artistic taste is already widely known.

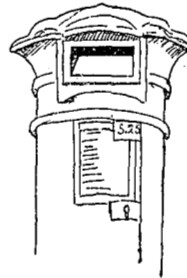
UNIONS are the fashion just now, and type-writing operators have followed *la mode* and combined. A fixed standard of wages has been drawn up, and the members have promised not to accept less. Offices have been lent gratuitously, and everything is *couleur de rose* for this new organization, which is a step in the right direction—namely, away from that other Union, *i.e.*, the Workhouse, whither, alas! too often starvation wages have driven many a man and many a woman whose early life never forecasted so sad a termination. I welcome gladly this society, the part realisation of a dream I have remarked on before, for it is the spirit of "underselling," underselling even the toil of man, which has proved the curse of our age.

UNIONS, societies—the words re-echo on every side. There are societies innumerable, from one for early rising to one for knitting stockings at a certain rate *per diem*, and one for practising the piano for half-an-hour each morning. The world will work entirely by rote some day. In Switzerland one has been started called by the strange name of the *Société de Vieilles Filles* (Society of Old Maids). The members must be over thirty, and must devote themselves to philanthropic work amongst the poor, and seeking to do good unto their neighbours. Old maid! It is a term of reproach amongst men; but soon it will be rather a term of esteem, if the example of these Swiss maidens is followed by the old maids of other nations. Already people are learning that our unmarried sisters prove oftentimes to be unappropriated blessings.

BUT will the Society aforesaid drive from its fold

and condemn to idleness, or solitary work, any Member who may have the good fortune (?) of an offer of marriage, and the audacity to accept it? Such an event is not improbable. Thirty is not so very aged, and no definite time can be fixed for the use of the word "never" with regard to matrimony. Only last summer I heard of two ladies who were led to the hymeneal altar, and in both cases the brides' ages approached nigh unto (we must not be too particular with regard to so uncertain a matter as the age of *les dames*) double the thirty years prescribed by the Société. Evidently these ladies thought it "never too late to mend," or mar, perhaps. The golden chains sometimes become iron fetters.

VEVA KARSLAND.



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.

Communications, &c., not noticed in our present number will receive attention when space permits.

BOILING MILK.

To the Editor of "The Nursing Record."

Sir,—I saw recently a discussion about boiling milk for household consumption. I had the opinion of a very clever surgeon who was in attendance on my patient some few years back—a most delicate child—that it destroyed the real good to boil milk, but it ought just to scald, without letting it come to a boil, or be treated by just dashing a little boiling water into it.—Yours, &c.,
A NURSE.

THE MACKINTOSH IN OVARIOTOMY OPERATIONS.

To the Editor of "The Nursing Record."

Sir,—In reply to "A Country Nurse," will you permit me to offer her my experience in the making of ovariectomy aprons? I make them about one yard long, and rather less wide, with a square piece cut from the middle ten inches long by about eight or nine inches wide.

For private cases I have found the ordinary pink mackintosh used for dressings answer very well, with four strips of strapping, about one and a-half inches wide, placed along each side of the opening, half the width beyond the edge of the mackintosh, so that one half adheres to the apron and the other half will adhere to the abdomen when warmed and applied. When pink mackintosh is used a fresh apron ought to be made for each case. For Hospital use I had one which, scrubbed and carbolised each time, did duty again and again. It was made of rather thin mackintosh, but, unlike the pink one, it was india-rubber both sides. The edges of this were smeared for me each time the apron was required for use, with diachylon. If "A Country Nurse" wishes to do it herself she can get the diachylon at a chemist's. It is sold in the lump, and I should think can be bought by the ounce. When melted it is easily applied with either brush or hot knife.—I am, yours faithfully,
J. SNOWDON, M.B.N.A.

[previous page](#)

[next page](#)