

it was impossible to live without them. So they had come to offer terms of peace.

Lysistrata, having still command of the Treasury, invited the Spartans to a great feast in the Acropolis, at which she presided, inviting only amiable Athenian leaders. The Athenians find that the Spartans are excellent fellows when they are well treated, and become positively entertaining over their wine, a new idea to the self-conceited Athenians. Under the influence of Lysistrata the terms of peace are easily settled after dinner, and all go happily home.

The chorus suggests that it were well that all embassies were fed first, and they would not be so inclined to boggle at trifles; and the chant rises into a climax on the joys of peace, thus brought about by the wit, determination, and prudence of the women.

In all this Aristophanes, in spite of occasional coarseness of language, uses a lighter and more delicate pen to touch the women, than he had used to the men of his day. The hint he gave them was not taken, and the war dragged on for another eight years before a treaty could be formulated.

But the power of great poets is perennial. The satire of that day may become an allegory to this. If women would only combine now, they, too, might conquer. There is a greater war than that with Sparta going on, a war in which there can be no treaty, for it is with evil and oppression, poverty and despair, and it is only a victory which can cure.

CHARLOTTE CARMICHAEL STOPES.

### Coming Events.

*April 3rd.*—Her Royal Highness Princess Christian of Schleswig-Holstein opens an Amateur Art Exhibition in aid of the Nurses' Home, at the Institute, Bagshot, 3 p.m.

*April 9th.*—Meeting of the Nurses' Social Union at Bristol. Subject to be treated, "Digestion and Diet." Information as to the Bristol Branch of the N.S.U. can be obtained from the local organiser, Miss Fry, Failand House, Bristol.

*April 11th.*—Social Gathering of the Matrons' Council. Miss Mollett will read Paper on "The Twentieth Century Probationer." 431, Oxford Street, 8 p.m.

*April 12th.*—Meeting of the Executive Committee of the Society for the State Registration of Trained Nurses, 431, Oxford Street, 4.30 p.m.

*April 15th.*—The Prince and Princess of Wales visit Richmond to open the Swan Memorial Ophthalmic Wards at the Royal Hospital, Richmond. 4 p.m.

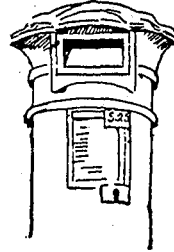
*April 18th.*—Catholic Nurses' Association, Conference at 109, St. George's Road, Southwark.

### A Word for the Week.

If you can't set the world afire to-day, never mind; just go on gathering kindling.

### 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.*

#### THE PARIS CONFERENCE.

*To the Editor of the "British Journal of Nursing."*

DEAR EDITOR,—The "B.J.N." has just arrived, and I must write to tell you that I think the arrangements you have made in Paris for the Nursing Conference to be held in June next, are splendid. Will you please accept hearty congratulations on the success of your last visit to Paris, and thanks for the good Programme. I hope to meet many of my friends there, and am looking forward to a very pleasant holiday.

With kindest regards,

Very sincerely yours,

J. A. SMITH, Matron.

The Infirmary, Kingston Hill,  
Kingston-on-Thames.

[We beg to thank our kind correspondent, and also several other friends who have written their congratulations on the scope of the Conference Programme. With the help of our most courteous French hosts and hostesses, the gathering is going to be just delightful.—Ed.]

#### SOCIAL MISFITS.

*To the Editor of the "British Journal of Nursing."*

DEAR MADAM,—I was very interested to read in our Journal Dr. Savage's remarks as to insanity, and that it is not always due to disease of the brain, but is also a condition induced by being a "misfit." I have for some time been in nursing charge of a patient, and when she is away from home, or when I have her to myself at home, she is as sane as I am. But when she is amongst her own people she certainly is mentally unhinged, and one feels that they create the worst possible environment for her. They are very unsympathetic to her in every way, like the things she dislikes; and are inclined to thwart all her legitimate wishes. What hope is there for the ultimate recovery of the patient in such a case? If I could take her to and keep her on the other side of the world I believe she would get perfectly well. As it is, I look forward to her future with dread. Can nothing be done to put the misfits in the world into their right environment?

Yours faithfully,

MENTAL NURSE.

#### BEYOND THE NURSING PALE.

*To the Editor of the "British Journal of Nursing."*

DEAR MADAM,—I read with feelings of dismay your notice that only nurses holding three years' certificates can register, and therefore practice as

[previous page](#)

[next page](#)