

Coming Events.

- October 29th.—Penal Reform League. First Annual Meeting, Caxton Hall, Westminster, 8 p.m.
 - October 29th.—Great Demonstration of Women, organised by the National Women's Social and Political Union. Royal Albert Hall, 8 p.m.
 - October 29th.—Institute of Hygiene, Devonshire Street, Harley Street, W. "Artificial Feeding." Dr. Agnes Savill. 3.30 p.m.
 - October 29th.—Central Midwives' Board. Examination. Oral.
 - November 2nd.—Discussion on the Nurses' Registration Bill, House of Lords.
 - November 2nd.—Medico-Psychological Association of Great Britain and Ireland. Examination in Nursing and Attending on the Insane.
 - November 3rd to 7th.—Universal Cookery and Food Exhibition, Royal Horticultural Hall, Westminster.
 - November 4th.—Memorial Stone to be laid of the New Nurses' Home, by Miss G. A. Rogers, Lady Superintendent, Leicester Infirmary, 12 noon. Meeting Leicester Infirmary Nurses' League, 3.15 p.m.
 - November 6th.—Meeting of the Matrons' Council of Great Britain and Ireland, 431, Oxford Street. 4 p.m. Tea.
 - November 6th.—The "Sanitas" Company "At Home" to Nurses, to inspect the works at Locksley Street, Limehouse, E. Demonstrations followed by tea. 3 p.m.
 - November 10th.—London Society for Women's Suffrage. Annual Meeting, Council Chamber, Caxton Hall, Westminster, 3 p.m.
 - November 13th.—The National Council of Nurses of Great Britain and Ireland. Meeting of the Council, 4 p.m., 431, Oxford Street, London, W. Tea.
- Agenda: To consider preliminary arrangements for the Quinquennial Meeting of the International Council of Nurses, to meet in London, July, 1909.

THE ROYAL INFIRMARY, EDINBURGH.

Lectures.—Extra Mural Medical Theatre, 4.30 p.m. Trained Nurses cordially invited.

November 4th.—Demonstration on the Treatment of Some Cases of Skin Diseases. By Dr. Norman Walker.

November 18th.—Sleep. By Dr. R. A. Fleming.

ULSTER BRANCH IRISH NURSES' ASSOCIATION.

The following lectures will be held in the Club-room, 16, Crane's Buildings, Wellington Place, Belfast:—

Wednesday, November 11th, at 7.30 p.m., "Bacteriology," Professor Symmers.

Wednesday, December 9th, at 7.30 p.m., "Mental Nursing," Dr. J. Patrick.

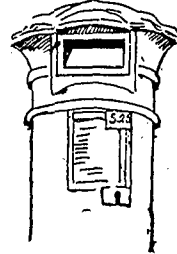
Members may bring a friend on payment of sixpence to the secretary.

A WORD FOR THE WEEK.

Cowardice asks, "Is it safe?" Expediency asks, "Is it politic?" Vanity says, "Is it fashionable?" Conscience asks, "Is it right?"

F. HYATT SMITH.

Letters to the Editor.



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 POSITION OF NURSES IN THE CHILDREN'S BILL.

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

DEAR MADAM,—I noticed with surprise in the debate on the Children's Bill in the House of Commons, the point reported in your issue of last week, that the House agreed, without question, to Mr. Rawlinson's amendment, placing, without question, "nurses" in the same position as medical practitioners in relation to the ordering of stimulants for children under five years of age.

In the first place, as Lord Robert Cecil pointed out, there is at present no legal definition of a nurse. This is one strong reason for the passing of the Nurses's Registration Bill before the Children's Bill comes into force, or as soon after as possible, so that the word nurse in the Act may have a definite meaning, or we may have a woman with a few week's training in a maternity hospital claiming under this Act the same right to prescribe a drug—for that is what "intoxicating liquor" really is—as a fully qualified medical practitioner.

Secondly, it is surely a mistake to place nurses in a different position from any other persons under this Act. A parent or friend is in sickness, or apprehended sickness, exempt from the penalties imposed by the Act if she gives stimulants to any infant. And this should be sufficient for the nurse also. Her professional education does not qualify her to prescribe either alcohol or any other drug, and she must rank as an amateur if, in emergency, she does so prescribe it. It seems, therefore, a great pity that she should be placed in an exceptional position in an Act of Parliament in relation to this matter, and I hope that in the House of Lords the words "or nurse" may be taken out of the Bill.

I am, dear Madam,

Yours faithfully,

CERTIFICATED NURSE.

THE MANAGEMENT OF TWINS.

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

DEAR MADAM,—I am glad to see that "Mack All," writing on "The Management of Twins," draws attention to the moral aspect of the employment of a wet nurse. Is it right, for money, for a mother to deprive her child of the food which belongs to her own infant? I do not believe it. Moreover, as the former Superintendent of a Maternity Home, I can say that it is so rare as to be almost unknown for a married woman to be willing to accept a position of wet nurse. Such women have duties to their husband and children. Is it desirable that an unmarried woman should be

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