# Jan. 16, 1909]

# The British Journal of Mursing.

seconded, a resolution congratulating the women of Finland on their freedom, and calling on the British Government to follow the example of other countries by enfranchising its women in the coming session of Parliament.

We are glad to know that the sensible suggestion that the charitably disposed wishing to send clothes to the earthquake sufferers in Italy should obtain what is suitable from the Unemployed Women's Workrooms, has been acted upon, and that already a substantial amount of money has been spent in the manner.

#### COMING EVENTS.

January 16th.—Meeting of the Executive Committee of the National Council of Nurses, to consider the Programme for the International Nursing Conference, July 20th, 1909. 431, Oxford Street, London, W. 3.30 p.m.

January 18th.—The Duchess of Albany lays the foundation stone of the new Hospital for Invalid Gentlewomen, Lisson Grove.

January 18th.—The Lady Mayoress presides at a meeting in connection with a Nursing Establishment for the City Territorial Force, Mansion House.

January 18th.—Annual General Meeting of Midwives' Defence Association. 12, Buckingham Street, Strand, 5.30 p.m.

January 20th.—First meeting of Midwives' Departmental Committee, Privy Council Office.

January 21st.—Meeting of Central Midwives' Board, Caxton House, Westmintser, S.W. 2.45 p.m. February 1st.—The Royal Sanitary Institute.

February 1st.—The Royal Sanitary Institute. Lectures and Demonstrations for Sanitary Officers in Sanitary Science as applied to Buildings and Public Works, for Meat Inspectors, on School Hygiene, and for Women Health Visitors and School Nurses. Full particulars from the Offices, Royal Sanitary Institute, Margaret Street, London, W.

ULSTER BRANCH OF THE IRISH NURSES' ASSOCIATION. The following Lectures will be held in the Club

Room, 16, Crane's Buildings, Wellington Place, Belfast, 7.30 p.m.: --

January 14th.—Nursing in Relation to Preventive Medicine. By Dr. Marion Andrews.

February 18th.—Tuberculosis. By Dr. M'Ilwaine.

March 25th.-Nursing of Eye and Throat Cases. By Dr. Cecil Shaw.

Members may bring a friend on payment of sixpence.

THE ROYAL INFIRMARY, EDINBURGH.

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

January 27th.—Some Practical Points in the Treatment of Ear, Nose, and Throat Affections, by Dr. A. Logan Turner.

> A WORD FOR THE WEEK. Spin carefully, Spin prayerfully, But leave the thread with God.

# 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.

## OUR GUINEA PRIZE.

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

DEAR MADAM, — Many thanks for cheque received for £1 ls. for Puzzle Prize. It was a very nice New Year's gift, and a nice surprise to me. With best wishes, and success to the BRITISH JOURNAL OF NURSING,

## Yours truly,

BERTHA HOWARD. Mile End Infirmary, Bancroft Road, E.

# HOT SPONGING IN TYPHOID.

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

DEAR MADAM,-I was interested to see that an "Old Graduate" found hot sponging so beneficial.

When T was in hospital, during the Maidstone typhoid epidemic, the patients in one ward were under the care of two physicians. Dr. A believed in ice sponging, Dr. B in hot. In every case I found the hot sponging did most good. Sometimes the cold did bring down the temperature lower than the hot, but the re-action was greater; it always rose again very quickly. The patients, too, always were more soothed after hot sponging, and we always reckoned that they would sleep for at least two hours after it. As nurses we always preferred Dr. B's patients to those of Dr. A, simply because they were less trouble and there was so much to do. Yours truly.

M. H.

### THE SCARCITY OF DISTRICT NURSES.

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

DEAR MADAM,—"County Superintendent" voices the regrets of many District Nursing Superintendents. Standards have been lowered of late years owing to the fact that the supply of welltrained nurses does not meet the demand.

But it is an economic fact that if the salary of a class of workers is adequate the supply is ample. £80, with a furnished cottage, is not a tempting salary to women who have gone through a three years' general and midwifery training. It is little over 30s. a week, and if it suffices for food, clothes (boots are a fearful item in a district nurse's list), washing, petty expenses, and a dozen other things, how can a refined woman save on it? The truth is that district nurses ought to be paid at least £2 a week; the wear and tear is so great. I worked for much less, and had to give up work I loved because. I had no one to help me if ill or old, and couldn't stand the anticipation of penury in old age. Nurses



