

March 20th.—Irish Nurses' Association. Lecture: "Massage as Applied to Children," by Dr. Ella Webb. 34, St. Stephen's Green, Dublin, 7.30 p.m.

March 27th and 28th.—Central Midwives' Board. Meeting to consider Penal Cases. Caxton House, S.W. 2 p.m.

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 PRIZE COMPETITIONS.

To the Editor of THE BRITISH JOURNAL OF NURSING.

DEAR MADAM,—I beg to acknowledge with many thanks the receipt of one of the "Real Incident Competition" prizes value £1 is.

Yours truly,

ANNA MARGARETTA CAMERON.

Margaret Street, W.

To the Editor of THE BRITISH JOURNAL OF NURSING.

DEAR MADAM,—I hereby acknowledge the receipt of the Competition Prize, for which please accept many thanks.

Yours truly,

B. L. CHEESMAN.

Royal Southern Hospital,
Liverpool.

PADDLE YOUR OWN CANOE.

To the Editor of THE BRITISH JOURNAL OF NURSING.

DEAR MADAM,—By all means let us have our own Society and manage our own affairs. Surely the many thousands our profession now numbers of educated skilled professional women can manage the affairs of the profession better than outsiders and laity. The account of the meeting held in London to hear Miss Mollett's suggestions warmed my heart—"Unanimous"—that's what we want. In this case, as in several others, we know what we want, and given that we want it sufficiently, there is no doubt whatsoever that we shall get it.

I wish I could divide myself into a thousand, and send in all the votes "in favour." As I can't do that, and as, alas! I am too far away to be able to help in voting and getting others to "know what they want" and pass it on, I send a small subscription towards expenses, to go to the "Defence Committee."

If we could only turn some of the people who cannot join the Registration Association because their Matron and Committee do not approve, to some account, we should have accomplished something. For myself, it is a state of mind I do not comprehend to know a thing to be right for oneself, one's comrades, one's patients, and the public at large, yet to refuse to join because one's superior officer chooses the fleshpots of Egypt.

Things have come to a pretty pass if people are dismissed because their private opinion differs from their employers', but if that is so the sooner one works with officers who hold the same views as oneself the better for all concerned, I should say. Forgive me if I speak too strongly. I feel mighty strongly.

Yours sincerely,

"PADDLE YOUR OWN CANOE."

Bombay.

REMOVAL OF NAMES FROM MIDWIVES' ROLL.

To the Editor of THE BRITISH JOURNAL OF NURSING.

DEAR MADAM,—I notice that in your report of the meeting of the Central Midwives' Board it is stated a letter was received from the late Superintendent of the Norfolk County Nursing Federation complaining of the publication in a nursing journal of the names of two midwives removed from the Roll at the last Penal Meeting of the Board with their respective counties, when the Chairman had requested that these particulars might not be given.

I can quite understand that there may be good reason for asking the press not to publish details of cases, but in my opinion it is most undesirable that the names of midwives removed from the Roll should be suppressed for any reason whatever.

The Midwives' Roll is published in order that the public may know who are authorised by the Board to practise midwifery, and if the Board consider it necessary to remove the name of a midwife from the Roll and to cancel her certificate surely as wide publicity as possible should be given to the fact for the protection of the public.

Further, the Board sits in a semi-judicial capacity, as a Court of Law, and its sentences should be as publicly given as those of any other court. It is unheard of for the fact of a sentence to be suppressed in any ordinary court; in fact, neither a judge nor a magistrate would have any power to do so. Why should the names of the poor old *bonâ fides* who are removed from the Roll be published and those of midwives who are certified after examination—and therefore of whom more should be expected than of the ignorant old women in practice at the passing of the Act—be suppressed?

Yours faithfully,

CERTIFIED MIDWIFE.

[We regret that owing to pressure on our space several letters are unavoidably held over.—ED.]

OUR PRIZE COMPETITIONS FOR MARCH.

March 16th.—Describe what personal precautions you would take before passing on to another case after attending a case of infectious disease as a private nurse.

March 23rd.—How would you care for the dead, in a hospital, from the hour of death until the corpse is removed from the mortuary?

March 30th.—What special points would you observe in nursing a case of tuberculosis in a poor home?

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