

was when the agent wrote enquiring whether Mr. Ransome wished to give his residence a distinctive name. He didn't wish it, but Violet did. She said she couldn't abide a number. Ranny said if he lived in a house called Granville, it would make him feel a silly ass. And Violet said he was a silly ass to feel about it like that. After all Violet had been right. Granville kept him in a state of being tickled. It tickled Wauchope and Fred Booty. They met him with "What price Granville?" They called him in town Baron Granville of Granville, or the Duke of Granville. Violet from the first resented the married state, and hated the babies as they arrived, and finally left Ranny for some worthless man. Ranny being such a decent chap felt his disgrace badly. The inevitable reaction comes, and he realises what he missed the day he refrained from asking Winny to marry him. "Dear little Winny!"

Mr. Wells has found a rival in Miss May Sinclair in portraiture of suburban and commercial life. This is a book well worth the reading, and contains many clever sketches besides those of the most prominent persons.

Ranny's father in his eyes was a miracle of unfitness, and whose continual state of inebriety was covered by his faithful wife as "The Head-ache."

H. H.

### COMING EVENTS.

*March 27th.*—Nurses' Social Union. Lecture by Dr. Barty King on "The Lessons to be Learned from the Social Insurance Act of Germany, with Special Reference to the Crusade against Disease," illustrated by lantern slides, Institute of Hygiene, Devonshire Street, London, W., 3.15 p.m. Admission free to members, who are requested to wear their badges or bring their cards. Nurses not members, 6d.; others, 1s.

*March 28th.*—The Hendon Branch of the Central London Sick Asylum Nurses' League. Annual Meeting. 4 p.m.

*April 22nd to 25th.*—Annual Exhibition and Nursing and Midwifery Conference, Horticultural Hall, Westminster, London.

### NATIONAL COUNCIL OF TRAINED NURSES OF GREAT BRITAIN AND IRELAND.

*June 4th to 6th.*—Conference and Exhibition organized by the Irish Nurses' Association. Questions of interest to be discussed:—Nursing Education, Preliminary, Theoretical and Practical and Post Graduate; State Registration; the Nurses' Registration Bill, its effect on the Nursing Profession, including Hours of Work, Remuneration and Privileges; the Law as it affects Trained Nurses; White Plague (tuberculosis); Black Plague (venereal disease); the Appeal of the Insane; Poor Law Nursing; School Nursing; The Training and Professional Ideals of the Masseuse; the Legal Status of the Midwife; a Just Midwives' Act for Ireland.

### 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 ABUSE OF NURSES' UNIFORM.

To the Editor of THE BRITISH JOURNAL OF NURSING.

DEAR MADAM,—As a trained nurse, I am naturally very much interested in the protest which is being made against the abuse of our uniform. As you remarked in your speech of the 14th inst., this abuse, together with other matters, is lowering our profession in the eyes of the public, so that, as in the instance of the members of the Lyceum Club, nurses are regarded with suspicion and dislike.

May I suggest that an advertisement which appeared last week in a medical periodical does not tend to help matters in the right direction? An institution, in advertising for nurses, offered "£2 per annum good conduct money"! I think this is an insult to an honourable profession and speaks eloquently for the institution in question and for the type of nurses which the authorities have been accustomed to employ.

With regard to Registration and a recognised uniform or badge, at the meeting held on the 14th inst. it was suggested by one of the speakers that our uniform should be discarded until it could be worn with self-respect. Should this course be adopted, we should appear, so it seems to me, to be leaving in the lurch those of our profession who are still at their training schools, especially those whose hospitals forbid the wearing of mufti during their period of residence.

Should a State recognised uniform be adopted, hospital nurses are again in a difficulty, as they may not wear the registered garb, and therefore must wear private clothes (if allowed), the changing into which necessitates the waste of precious "off-duty" time, or they must wear a uniform which may be copied with impunity by any untrained woman.

Would it be possible to insert a clause in the Registration Bill, or to draft a separate Bill, allowing hospitals to register, or make copy-right, their several uniforms; or, better still, for all to adopt one pattern, so that there would be only two State recognised uniforms (apart from the two services), one for fully-trained nurses and the other for those in course of training, the latter to be worn only when actually in residence at hospital? (This would prevent its use by those who did not complete their three years' training.) I think this method would be more satisfactory in the end than the wearing of badges. I have not overlooked, however, one disadvantage—the question of expense. Uniform is not cheap, though one institution which advertises in your columns offers "£2 per annum (only) in lieu of

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