

## COMING EVENTS.

## THE SOCIETY FOR THE STATE REGISTRATION OF TRAINED NURSES.

June 17th.—The Annual Meeting of the Society for the State Registration of Trained Nurses will be held at the Medical Society's Rooms, 11, Chandos Street, Cavendish Square, London, W., at 11 a.m. Chairman, Mrs. Bedford Fenwick, President of the Society.

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

June 17th.—Conference Day 1915: 11, Chandos Street, Cavendish Square, London, W.

Morning Session, 12 noon, Chairman, Mrs. Bedford Fenwick, "The Need for a Trained Nurses' Economic League": Miss Henrietta J. Hawkins, P.L.G.; Discussion. Mrs. Herbert Lewis, Mr. Herbert Paterson, F.R.C.S.

Afternoon Session, 3 p.m., "The Place of the Imperial Mother in Peace and War"; Chairman, Mrs. Baillie Reynolds; Address by Mrs. Bedford Fenwick, on "A Scheme for Social Service in Relation to the Soldier: (a) Scientific Domestic Management; (b) Personal Hygiene; (c) Preventive Nursing"; Discussion. Speakers: Mrs. Clark Nuttall, Housing, Cleanliness of Billets, Nutritious Value of Rations and Good Cooking, the duty of Economy, care of Clothing and Laundry; Dr. R. Murray Leslie, Personal Hygiene; Miss H. L. Pearce, on Observation of deviation from the normal in health, First-Aid; Miss B. Pullen-Burry, F.R.G.S., on Our Earthly Heritage; Mrs. T. Chamberlain, Miss Binnie Clark, Miss Helen Colt, on Food Supplies. Open discussion.

June 18th.—Nurses' Union Garden Party, White House, Woodford Green, in Epping Forest, by invitation of Mrs. MacInnes. 3-6.30 p.m.

June 23rd to July 7th.—Nurses' Missionary League: Summer Camp Old Jordan's Hostel, Beaconsfield, Bucks.

## 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 CONSERVATION OF ENERGY.

To the Editor of THE BRITISH JOURNAL OF NURSING.

DEAR MADAM,—Now that we are threatened with a shortage of nurses, is it not time that the authorities of hospitals in which they are employed should restrict the duties of nurses as far as possible to those for which they have been trained. No nurse minds turning her hand to anything if necessity arises, but if nurses are systematically required to do work for which they are unsuited, which could better be done by someone else, then it does seem right that

if this is merely from lack of organisation that the conditions under which they work should be altered. One hears of ladies who have held distinguished positions in the nursing world doing all sorts of odd jobs, from scrubbing and cleaning windows to ordinary ward work, and I notice that a correspondent of the *Lancet* writes that of two nurses serving with the Expeditionary Force in France, "one takes spells of duty as cook and housekeeper, while the other has to cook her own meals and wash up afterwards. Both are thoroughly good nurses and both are thoroughly bad cooks. . . . Trained nurses are scarce, but there are many experienced housekeepers, and the women of France have a deservedly high reputation as cooks." Surely it is wasteful for skilled workers to be set to do work for which they are unskilled, and at the present time waste in any direction is a sin.

Yours faithfully,

COMMON SENSE.

## A SILVER LINING.

To the Editor of THE BRITISH JOURNAL OF NURSING.

DEAR MADAM,—There is so much sadness connected with the present War that one is glad to notice any silver lining, and one thing which certainly I have found to be most pleasant is one's comradeship with the nurses of other schools. In so many military hospitals now the nursing staffs are gathered from many different training schools, and one learns much from one's colleagues, and I hope also contributes somewhat to the general stock of knowledge.

Although nowadays our professional societies have done much to establish cordial relations between the members of different schools, and to help them to appreciate each other's excellencies, I find that there are still nurses who have not had this advantage, and are apt to think that the training of nurses begins and ends in the hospital in which they received their professional instruction. It is a genuine surprise to them, as well as a pleasure to find that many excellent nurses are trained elsewhere. During the last ten months many friendships have been formed between nurses of different schools now working together in military hospitals, and I think that when this terrible war is over it will be found that there is a better understanding than ever before of the need for the consolidation of our profession. Here a little and there a little, a word dropped is a seed sown, and many seeds are germinating and fructifying just now.

Yours faithfully,

SISTER.

## OUR PRIZE COMPETITIONS.

June 26th.—What symptoms would lead you to apprehend the onset of (1) sapræmia, and (2) septicæmia in a lying-in woman?

July 3rd.—Mention the animal parasites which may be found on the surface of the body. Explain what methods you would adopt for their removal.

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