

## COMING EVENTS.

*January 8th.*—Meeting Executive Committee Society for the State Registration of Trained Nurses. To consider a Circular Letter from the Hon. Arthur Stanley, M.P., Chairman Joint War Committee, dealing with the Organisation of the Nursing Profession. 43I, Oxford Street, London, W. 4 p.m.

*January 21st.*—The Matrons' Council: Annual Meeting, 43I, Oxford Street, London, W. 3.45 p.m. Tea.

Meeting National Council of Trained Nurses, 5 p.m. To receive a report from Delegates to International Council Meeting and Nurses' Convention, San Francisco.

*January 22nd.*—League of St. Bartholomew's Hospital Nurses. The Winter General Meeting, Clinical Theatre, Medical School, 3 p.m. Social Gathering, Nurses' Sitting Room, Nurses' Home.

## 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.*

## NURSES' UNIFORM.

*To the Editor of THE BRITISH JOURNAL OF NURSING.*

DEAR MADAM,—Your correspondent, T. D. Butler, writing on the subject of Nurses' Uniform, says that "Nurses in hospitals, who for the most part get only two hours off duty, have no time to waste in changing their dress." Is it possible that any nurses are, in these days, so regardless of the welfare of their patients as to wear in the streets, and in cabs and omnibuses, the same dresses that they wear in the wards? If so, they are indeed whited sepulchres. Whether a nurse wears uniform or not, it is incumbent upon her to change her ward dress for one which she keeps for outdoor use, preferably a dark one to match her cloak. That, however, is a matter of taste; but the wearing of a different dress is as much a matter of duty for the protection of her patients as is the preparation of her hands.

Outdoor uniform can never be discarded by nurses while the rate at which they are paid is so small, for it is manifestly impossible that they should dress as gentlewomen, pay for their holidays, put by for a rainy day and for old age, and discharge their other obligations, on salaries averaging from £25-£40 per annum.

Outdoor uniform is a necessity, if nurses are to appear neatly and suitably garbed in the streets. I know that some hospitals give two hours off duty daily. It always seems to me a most unpractical arrangement, not permitting of any real change of thought and scene. Three hours might well be given every day; but, if an average of two hours is all that can be managed, let it be one hour one day and three the next alternately, with occasional half and whole days.

SUPERINTENDENT.

## ASK ANOTHER!

*To the Editor of THE BRITISH JOURNAL OF NURSING.*

DEAR MADAM,—In your issue of November 6th, 1915, page 378, paragraph 4, you republish extracts from a contemporary. As you have seen fit to republish these accounts, and being somewhat interested in the operations at Gallipoli, I would esteem it a favour if you would answer the following questions. Miss Breakey states that the troopship, on which she sailed, encountered enemy cruisers. How is it that she was on a troopship with other sisters? What was the name of the said troopship? Was she sent into the Captain's den? Where did she land on Gallipoli, and why? Who was responsible for her promotion? What were the D.M.S. and D.D.M.S. and A.D.M.S. doing, that an untrained woman should be responsible for the directing of operations on the field? Army mules are not generally ridden by women. What does she mean by being in the thick of the fray? and a long way from camp. What camp? Why was she not arrested for being illegally in possession of Government property, i.e., one great coat? Since when were cavalry mounted in Gallipoli engagements? Did she ever see wounded brought from the field on Artillery waggons? Where were the ambulances? Who was the Australian officer who taught the parrot to say, "When Irish eyes are smiling?" I would like to engage this officer to teach birds to speak in so short a time. I would soon be able to buy Gallipoli from the Turks with the services of such a man, as this officer. Being on the Peninsula from landing until a month ago, I am rather interested in these extracts of contemporary.

"BLOB."

Cardiff.

[Our correspondent will note if she refers to our comment on the quotation in question that we asked the War Office if Staff Sister Henrietta Breakey's amazing communication was correct? We remarked "We await a reply." We are still waiting. We therefore advise "Blob" to address her very pertinent questions to the War Office, or the British Red Cross Society.—ED.]

## FRENCH FLAG NURSING CORPS.

Candidates for the French Flag Nursing Corps Service in France can be interviewed on Fridays, 2.30 to 5 p.m., at 43I, Oxford Street, London, W., or by arrangement with the Hon. Secretary. Candidates must be well educated and hold a certificate for three years' general training, which they should bring for inspection. Experience in fever nursing is an additional advantage, also a knowledge of French.

## OUR PRIZE COMPETITIONS.

*January 15th.*—How would you prepare for use:—(a) Chronic catgut? (b) Gum elastic catheter? (c) Silk? (d) Horsehair?

*January 22nd.*—What are the chief functions of the stomach, intestines, liver and pancreas?

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