

ACTION AGAINST THE L.C.C.

On June 1st, the L.C.C. were summoned before Mr. Mead at Marlborough Street by Mrs. Violet Singfield for unlawfully refusing to register a massage establishment which she had carried on at 132, Great Portland Street, W. The appellant contended that she was a certified masseuse, and that the place was respectably conducted.

Mr. Huntley Jenkins opening the case for Mrs. Singfield, said that she had carried on the business as a masseuse for three years. When she commenced it she was in partnership with another lady, but after a time certain information came to her knowledge which led her to decide to sever the connection, and she bought the lady out after five months' partnership.

In the witness box Mrs. Singfield said that she carried on the business in the name of Violet Graham, as the Hydro Electric Institute. She made about £7 a week profit. She had commenced business on the advice of Dr. Warren, from whom she had a certificate.

Mrs. Kathleen M. Parker said that she was deputed by the L.C.C. to obtain information as to massage establishments in London, and went to the Hydro Electric Institute as an applicant for the post of assistant. Mrs. Singfield was dressed as a hospital nurse. She said she could not engage the witness as she was only an assistant of Miss Williams. The latter was called in, and in the presence of them both the witness said she knew nothing of massage, and Miss Williams replied that did not matter, they would teach her all that was necessary.

The magistrate adjourned the hearing in order to consider his decision.

It does not appear whether the representative of the L.C.C. was acting in the capacity of inspector, or of private detective; surely the latter, as a public official would scarcely adopt such methods in the discharge of her duty.

NEGLECT IN A CHILDREN'S HOME.

At the Dorset Assizes recently, Eliza Maud Bacon (56), who is a trained nurse, matron of a children's home at Poole, who was dressed as a Sister of Mercy, was indicted for causing the death of Norah Towner and for neglecting other children. She pleaded "Guilty" to neglect on each indictment, and was sentenced to two months' imprisonment in the first division.

The prisoner had previously been sentenced at the Hampshire Assizes to three months for neglect.

Let us hope that, for the future, unfortunate children will be protected from the control of this dangerous woman. What a travesty is our law! For neglect and causing death of an innocent child, one woman gets imprisonment in the first division; whilst another is sent to hard labour for wearing a uniform "resembling that of a Red Cross Nurse!"

THE SCIENCE AND ART OF NURSING.

The value of an encyclopædia to the person who wishes to be well informed is an acknowledged fact, and many nurses realise the necessity for some handy work of reference giving them a general insight into the things which concern their profession. Such a book is to be found in the "Science and Art of Nursing," published by the Waverley Book Co., Ltd., 7 and 8, Old Bailey, London, E.C. It is attractively edited and illustrated, and contains many excellent articles dealing with the various and increasing branches of work with which trained nurses are concerned.

The publishers will, if requested, forward, carriage paid, their "Free Book," giving a summary and full particulars of the "Science and Art of Nursing," involving no obligation, and are willing to arrange for payment for the book in small instalments.

COMING EVENTS.

June 8th.—Society State Registration of Trained Nurses: Annual Meeting, West Lecture Hall, Royal Society of Medicine, 1, Wimpole Street, London, W. 4 p.m. After the meeting, tea at 2, Portland Place, by the kind invitation of Mrs. Walter Spencer.

June 9th and 10th.—Royal Sanitary Institute Conference, 9, Buckingham Palace Road.

June 14th.—Leicester and Leicestershire Midwives' Association Meeting at Loughborough, by invitation of Nurse Warren. Address on "Serving Women" by Miss G. A. Rogers.

June 15th.—Central Midwives' Board Meeting. 3.30 p.m.

June 26th to 30th.—General Lying-in Hospital, S.E., "Post-Graduate Week." June 26th, Reception by Matron and Staff. Tea, 4 p.m.

June 29th.—National Union of Trained Nurses. Conference on "The Present Situation in the Nursing Profession," 46, Marsham Street, Westminster, S.W.

July 1st.—League of St. Bartholomew's Hospital Nurses. General Meeting. Clinical Theatre, St. Bartholomew's Hospital, E.C. 2.30 p.m. Social Gathering in the Great Hall. 4 p.m.

BOOK OF THE WEEK.

"POTSDAM PRINCES."*

The experiences of the English governess to the young sons of the Kaiser, as set forth in the diary kept by her at the period when she was so employed, must of necessity be a theme of very great interest at the present time. These experiences of the intimate daily life of the German Court are described with wonderful restraint, and it is remarkable how the writer appears to have recaptured the atmosphere of those days, in spite of the sinister meaning that

* By Ethel Howard. Methuen & Co., Ltd., London.

[previous page](#)

[next page](#)