

The exceedingly clever illustrations by A. H. Fish add no inconsiderable part to the delightful humour of the book. We should advise those in need of a "pick-me-up" to make an immediate acquaintance with Maria. H. H.

COMING EVENTS.

January 4th.—National Council of Nurses of Great Britain and Ireland: Meeting of the Executive Committee, 431, Oxford Street, London, W. 4 p.m.

January 6th.—Irish Nurses' Association: Meeting Executive Committee, 34, St. Stephen's Green, Dublin. 8.0 p.m.

January 18th.—Central Midwives Board. Monthly Meeting, Queen Anne's Gate Buildings, S.W. 3.30.

January 20th.—League of St. Bartholomew's Hospital Nurses: The Winter General Meeting, Clinical Theatre, 3.0 p.m.; Social Gathering, Nurses' Sitting Room.

January 27th.—Meeting in Dublin to discuss the College of Nursing. Arguments for and against.

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.

LEGACIES TO NURSES.

To the Editor of THE BRITISH JOURNAL OF NURSING.

DEAR MADAM,—No doubt the majority of nurses who benefit by legacies under the wills of patients well deserve it, but there is the other side. I know of a trained nurse whose three recent patients—all old men, with whom she was not for any length of time—have all left her a very considerable sum of money. Surely it is a little suspicious of undue influence when such a thing becomes a rule with a certain woman's patients. A just reward is one thing, but when it runs into hundreds of pounds it is often unfair on the family.

Yours truly,

A VERY POOR RELATION.

DISTINCTIVE UNIFORMS FOR FEVER NURSES.

To the Editor of THE BRITISH JOURNAL OF NURSING.

DEAR MADAM,—I note in the last issue of the JOURNAL that the Metropolitan Asylums Board have decided to adopt a uniform dress of plain Oxford shirting for the various grades in hospital service, the rank being denoted by distinguishing marks—one, two, and three chevrons of blue striped jean, for probationers, assistant nurses, and staff nurses respectively, the Sisters, in addition to the three chevrons, having a badge representing the Board's Arms, and the Superintendent Nurses the badge and one straight stripe with scroll piped with red twill.

I think it will be very confusing to doctors, patients and visitors if all grades wear the same uniform, as it takes an expert to appreciate the difference in the number of chevrons, whereas a difference in the colour of the dress is appreciated at a glance. I think, also, it will be very galling to Sisters and Staff Nurses who have been proud of their uniform to have to wear the same as assistant nurses and probationers. I am sure it will be most unpopular.

I am, yours faithfully,

A SISTER WHO OBJECTS.

To the Editor of THE BRITISH JOURNAL OF NURSING.

DEAR MADAM,—Surely the decision to dress all ranks of nurses in the M.A.B.'s hospitals in the same uniform dress will be very unpopular, and has been arranged by men, without due discussion with the Matrons of the Board. Women know the power and influence of uniform, and how in a hospital it emphasizes rank, and helps to maintain discipline. In my young days the Sisters in a certain hospital did not wear caps—they considered them a "badge of servitude"—but a new Matron looked so charming in her cap that they soon all followed suit, much to the satisfaction of the "staffs" and "pros."

Yours sincerely,

ONE OF THE OLD SCHOOL.

To the Editor of THE BRITISH JOURNAL OF NURSING.

DEAR MADAM,—Will you kindly insert the following in your journal:—

I wish to strongly protest against the proposal that Sisters should wear the same uniform as nurses and maids. If such a suggestion is insisted upon I would much rather pay for my own dress material, as I consider it a degradation to all trained nurses.

Thanking you in anticipation,

I am, yours faithfully,

A TRAINED BOARD SISTER.

To the Editor of THE BRITISH JOURNAL OF NURSING.

DEAR MADAM,—I read with surprise of the intended change of uniform, and very strongly disapprove of the trained Sisters having to wear the same kind of dresses as nurses and maids, especially the latter. I do not think the badge for the Sisters, and the chevrons for the different grades of nurses, sufficiently distinctive; in my opinion it is lowering the status of nursing.

A TRAINED BOARD SISTER.

[We have received many more letters on this question to the same effect.—ED.]

OUR PRIZE COMPETITIONS.

January 13th.—What are the different forms of meningitis in children? What do you know of them and of the nursing care needed?

January 20th.—A patient becomes unconscious from cerebral hæmorrhage; what would you do in such a case? In the event of the patient becoming helpless from hemiplegia afterwards, indicate how you would nurse the case?

[previous page](#)

[next page](#)