

## POOR LAW INFIRMARY MATRONS' ASSOCIATION.

The Poor Law Infirmary Matrons' Association are holding a meeting on June 19th at the Eustace Miles Restaurant at 5.30 p.m. One of the subjects for discussion is how to increase the usefulness and influence of the Association. In the past much expert help has been forthcoming, through the members, of value to the Local Government Board on nursing matters, and now that the Ministry of Health is established the Matrons and nurses in the Poor Law Service can, we feel sure, continue, if consulted, to give most valuable assistance in the evolution of national nursing, and also, through Miss Dowbiggin, to the General Nursing Council, when the standards for Nurses' Registration, after the term of grace, must be defined for the General (Women Nurses) Register.

## QUEEN'S NURSES.

A well-attended meeting of the Metropolitan and Southern Counties Association of Queen's Superintendents was held at 43, Blandford Square, on Thursday May 27th, by kind permission of the Paddington and Marylebone District Nursing Association. Such important questions as the shortage of District Nurses, salaries, examination, &c., were discussed, and it was decided to send several resolutions with regard to these matters to the Council of the Q.V.J. Institute.

Miss Wagg kindly took the chair at the meeting, and Miss Hughes, Miss Peterkin, Miss Bridges and Miss Lowe met the members of the Conference at tea afterwards.

## THE SCOTTISH REGISTRAR.

### AN INITIAL BLUNDER.

We hear a feeling of apprehension has been aroused in nursing circles in Scotland, that the well-paid post of Registrar to the General Nursing Council for Scotland has not been advertised in the Nursing Press, and that it does not require that the candidates shall possess a nursing certificate, or have any knowledge of professional affairs. We do not wonder that Scottish nurses resent this attitude towards their highly-skill'd work by those who have drafted the advertisement, and are glad to note from letters received from over the Border that they approve the policy in this connection of the G.N.C. for England and Wales. Let us hope that it is not too late for the Scottish Council to realise its duty to our Scottish colleagues. In this case, apparently, she who pays the piper does not call the tune! We look to the Matrons and Nurses on the Council to acquaint the lay and medical element upon it with the feelings and wishes of the nurses. This way only can harmony be maintained.

## THE PROFESSIONAL UNION OF TRAINED NURSES.

By MISS MAUDE MACCALLUM.

It is time that Private Nurses looked, not so much to their laurels, as to their livelihood, or they will wake up some day and find their work taken from them.

There was great indignation at first over the untrained woman coming into the field of action, but they have become so used to the idea, that their wrath is now only simmering, if it has not already evaporated.

What do they think of the fresh aspirant brought forward by the newly-elected President of the Fever Nurses' Association? He suggests "a Nursing Institute" be started. "Nurses would be available either for full time in any one house in the way in which a private nurse is now employed by those who are fairly well to do, and also for such work as is now termed 'district nursing.'" He did not consider such a scheme would necessarily interfere with the nurses of private institutes, because the provision of full-time nurses for illness for less well-to-do households would necessitate the paying of a smaller fee than a nurse working privately could afford to take. This smaller fee might be made possible by subsidising the Institute.

Is this Institute to be subsidised by public money, to undercut the private nurse who is doing visiting work?

It must also be of much interest to the Public Health Nurse to learn that "already public health authorities are increasing their demands for the services of nurses in connection with school medical work, tuberculosis, maternity and child welfare, lying-in hospitals, convalescent homes, and many other special departments of nursing activity. The speaker was of opinion that experience in fever hospitals produced a type of professional woman specially qualified to deal with children, to treat those diseases which are incidental to the years of childhood."

Wake up, Private Nurse! A Private Nurses' Section is being formed by the Professional Union of Trained Nurses to safeguard your interests. Join the Union, and *do it now!*

## THE RECOGNITION OF NURSING.

\* Lieut.-Colonel N. Howard Mummery, the General Secretary of the Federation of Medical and Allied Societies, informs us that the following letter has been sent by his society, to the Right Hon. C. Addison, M.D., M.P., Minister of Health:—

SIR,—My Executive Council has had under its consideration the fact that nurses, midwives, women sanitary inspectors and health visitors and masseuses are not directly represented on the Consultative Council of Medical and Allied Services of the Ministry of Health. The organisations representative of these services are represented in this Federation and as a result of a

[previous page](#)

[next page](#)