

COMING EVENTS.

May 11th.—Nurses' Missionary League. Annual Conference and Meeting. University Hall, Gordon Square, London, W.C.

May 12th.—College of Nursing Ltd. Lecture on "The Position of a Knowledge of Mental Diseases in the General Nursing Curriculum," by Dr. T. C. Graves, M.D., F.R.C.S., Medical Superintendent, Rubery Hill Mental Hospital. Lecture Theatre, General Hospital, Birmingham. 5.30 p.m. Members free, non-members 1s.

May 17th to 20th.—Nursing and Midwifery Exhibition and Conference, Royal Horticultural Hall, Westminster, S.W. Open daily from noon to 9 p.m.

May 18th.—Royal British Nurses' Association. Opening of New Headquarters and Nurses' Club, 194, Queen's Gate, S.W., by the President, Her Royal Highness the Princess Christian, 4 p.m.

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.

NURSING CONTROVERSY AT THE WEST MIDDLESEX HOSPITAL.

To the Editor of THE BRITISH JOURNAL OF NURSING.

DEAR MADAM,—In view of the application which may be made to the Ministry of Health to hold an inquiry into the circumstances under which three (not six) nurses were recently dismissed from the Hospital for deliberate violation of rules and open defiance of authority, it would, I think, be improper for me, as Chairman of the Hospital Committee, to enter into public controversy on the subject, but in justice to our Matron, I feel bound to ask you to permit me to say for the information of the nursing profession that Miss MacCallum's statement in your last issue is so incomplete and so inaccurate that it travesties rather than states the facts.

Whether, upon the true facts of the case, the Guardians were justified in the action they took is a question for argument at the proper time and place, and I will not risk prejudicing its proper determination by the expression here of my own opinion, but I cannot refrain from expressing my regret that Miss MacCallum (following the unhappy example of the Poor-Law Workers' Union) should have published the information she received without testing its accuracy.

Yours, &c.,

ALICE B. M. CUMBERBATCH.

The West Middlesex Hospital.

To the Editor of THE BRITISH JOURNAL OF NURSING.

DEAR MADAM,—It was with feelings of gratitude that I noted on page 249 of your valuable journal's current issue, a statement by Miss Maude

MacCallum re the dismissal of certain nurses at Isleworth Infirmary.

This matter will in the very near future come prominently before the public, as this organisation believing in the justice of its case, is pressing for a full inquiry by the Ministry of Health. Thousands of local ratepayers have signed petitions asking for such inquiry and the support of many Members of the House of Commons is assured.

Yours faithfully,

REG. D. CROOK,

London Secretary.

Poor Law Workers' Trade Union,
90, Charing Cross Road, W.C.2.

DISTRICT NURSING ENDOWMENT FUND.

To the Editor of THE BRITISH JOURNAL OF NURSING.

DEAR MADAM,—On behalf of the Committee I beg to thank you most cordially for the insertion of the Competition Notices in aid of the Endowment Fund of the Tunbridge Wells Home for the Q.V.J.D. Nurses, and also of the notice of the Fête in the Journal.

Believe me, yours faithfully,

MARGARET A. JACOMB-HOOD.

Bardon House,
Tunbridge Wells.

"WHAT WOULD YOU DO?"

To the Editor of THE BRITISH JOURNAL OF NURSING.

DEAR MADAM,—In the absence of any artificial heat I would wash the mouths and eyes only of newly-born twins with weak boric lotion. I would use a little olive oil or vaseline, if necessary, to remove a prominent splash of hæmorrhage or if the bowels had acted, but I should do it as quickly as possible. I should then wrap the babies in cotton wool and a shawl or small blanket each and lay them one either side of the mother unless her condition was serious.

Anything more must depend on circumstances, if available, a spirit stove, kindling wood, or even firelighters would heat enough water to fill a rubber bottle, or it might perhaps be begged from the charitable keeper of some hotel or restaurant. One or both babies might then be put into the cot, with the hot bottle at a safe distance. The bath should not be given till hot water and a fire are procured.

PRACTICAL EXPERIENCE.

PLEASE NOTICE.

Those making use of the telephone of the Registered Nurses' Society will please note that the number and exchange has been changed to Mayfair 5138 from Gerrard 1712. Of the annoyance and expense it is useless to complain to the autocratic Government Department which controls the telephone.

PRIZE COMPETITION QUESTIONS.

May 21st.—Describe the nursing care of a case of pulmonary tuberculosis in regard (1) to the patient; (2) to the community.

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