

An interesting meeting will be held at the Queen's Hall on Tuesday, March 14th, at 8 p.m. It is organised by the Six Point Group, and Mrs. Chalmers Watson, M.D. will be in the chair. Other speakers include the two women M.P.s. (Lady Astor and Mrs. Wintringham), Mrs. Pethick Lawrence, Miss Agnes Dawson and Miss Clemence Dane. The speeches will deal with legislation for the protection of children, for the unmarried mother and her child, pensions for widows, equal guardianship of infants, and equality of pay for men and women teachers and civil servants. Tickets 5s., 2s. 6d. and 1s., and some free admission tickets to unreserved places, to be obtained from the Six Point Group, 92, Victoria Street, S.W. 1.

COMING EVENTS.

March 10th.—Registered Nurses' Parliamentary Council; Public Meeting to enter Protests (1) against the conduct of the members of the General Nursing Council who, by absenting themselves from the performance of their public duties for ten weeks, paralysed the business of the Council to the injury and discredit of the Nursing Profession; and (2) to object to the new Rules and Resolution carried by these members at a meeting of the Council on February 17th last, and to invite the Minister of Health not to sign these Rules, and to dissolve the Council so that the Registered Nurses may elect representatives in whom they have confidence. Chair, Councillor Beatrice Kent, President. 11, Chandos Street, Cavendish Square, W. 7 p.m.

March 11th.—R.B.N.A. Club, 194, Queen's Gate, S.W.: Paper by Miss A. E. Macdonald, on "Mental Nursing along the Lines of Suggestion and Constructive Thought." 3 p.m.

March 17th.—General Nursing Council for England and Wales. Meeting. Ministry of Health, Whitehall, S.W. 2. 2.30 p.m.

March 18th.—R.B.N.A. Club, 194, Queen's Gate, S.W.: Lecture by Professor MacGregor-Morris, on "Thunder and Lightning," illustrated by lantern slides. 3 p.m.

March 23rd.—Central Midwives' Board: Monthly Meeting, 1, Queen Anne's Gate Buildings, S.W.

March 31st.—Professional Union of Trained Nurses. Annual General Meeting, "Plane Tree," 106, Great Russell Street, W.C.1. Admission by 1922 Membership card. 5.30 p.m.

A WORD FOR THE WEEK.

A GOOD CITIZEN.

"A good citizen is one who is willing at all times to make some sacrifice of his time, means and convenience to advance the common welfare, and has such an abiding interest in this that he is always watchful and needs no urging to do his duty."—*Ex-Governor Judson A. Harmon, Ohio.*

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.

THE REGISTRATION UKASE.

To the Editor of THE BRITISH JOURNAL OF NURSING.

DEAR MADAM,—Your editorial footnote to Miss Swiss's reply to my letter in the JOURNAL last week puts my point of view very clearly, but I shall be obliged if you will provide space for a few further remarks from myself.

First, upon reading the report of the meeting of the General Nursing Council, on February 17th, I was naturally indignant to find the two new Rules and the Instruction "thrust upon us," and still hope the Minister of Health will hesitate to sign the Rules. I gather that the Instruction to the Registration Committee, composed largely of those in favour of depriving its members of personal responsibility, must be complied with, and I agree with you that in doing so it places itself in an "untenable position." More, I consider its position not only "untenable," but contemptible, and dangerous to the best interests of the Registered Nurses who are responsible for financing the work of registration. Like Miss Julia Hurlston I studied the Rules before I applied to be registered, and I was satisfied that those who drafted them had provided the necessary safeguards, and the fact that you were on the Council added to my sense of security. It appears to me most unjust that, as soon as we have agreed to register under the present Rules, people in whom I, for one, have no confidence, should agree together outside the Council to have them so altered that thoughtful nurses must resent them when they realise the pitfalls they present.

I strongly object (1) to Dr. Goodall's new Rule making it possible for "College" members and others to register without direct documentary evidence of their qualifications being in evidence in our office. We have no control over the "College" Secretary or "other responsible officers" (whatever that means) of that or any other body. And why are nurses to be compelled to provide documentary evidence first hand to the officials of the College Company, and our Statutory Council to be satisfied with second-hand records? Such a system depreciates the prestige and authority of our State Registration Authority—as it is intended to do. I object (2) to Miss Coulton's new Rule. One need not waste words on the reasons for this job. It is apparent to the meanest intelligence. It is quite clear it is not a question of placing people on the Standing Committees, but of making it possible to turn them off; and if the Minister signs this Rule and permits this scandalous method of depriving members of office, I hope Parliament will have something to say about such tactics when the Rules lie on the table in the House.

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