

worth while. The fine presidential address of Major-General the Right Hon. J. E. B. Seely was interesting from start to finish.

The lecture by Dr. Saleeby on "Sunlight and Health," with lantern slides, was also full of interest, showing the need for smokeless towns to give the sun a chance to shine in the towns as well as the country. Infant Welfare, and Ante-Natal Work and Health Visitors were all freely discussed. Two of the most interesting discussions were on "The Effect of an Inefficient Midwifery Service on the Health of the Female Population," and "A Loophole in the Midwives' Act." I wish all midwives had been present to hear these two lectures and the discussions which followed. It is a great pity many more nurses, health visitors and midwives do not attend these conferences. There should have been more than double the number. The number of delegates and members from all the principal towns and cities of the British Isles, as well as from all parts of the world except Germany, were 970, but mainly men. I hope these few words, though so imperfectly put together, may stimulate interest in future.

Yours faithfully,

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THE PROTECTION OF WOMEN.

To the Editor of THE BRITISH JOURNAL OF NURSING.

DEAR MADAM,—Have the people of England, I wonder, become numbed and insensible to the atrocities that are taking place every day in Ireland? Many years ago accounts of the Bulgarian and Armenian atrocities sent a thrill of righteous horror and practical sympathy through the country, and rightly so; they are our fellow creatures. What is the matter with the mind and heart of England, that, when her own people are suffering in like manner, no general protest is made? How is it that we don't mobilise our forces into a great moral army of resistance? Those monsters of cruelty, not content with murder, arson, and anarchy, are now outraging their own women-folk. The notorious "Tipperary" case has been discussed in the Press, and Lord Carson has taken care that his colleagues in the House of Lords should know all about it, and he has since told them that he knows of another case quite as infamous. A contemporary, whose veracity we cannot doubt, states that it holds particulars of "unprintable" deeds of this nature in Ireland. England ought to be blazing from end to end over this hideous brutality. I do not intend to discuss the matter in this Journal from the political standpoint, but it is our duty as women, as nurses, as human beings with human hearts to feel and to grieve and to act in whatever measure we can, and to make known to our readers and others the inhuman savagery that is being perpetrated in the adjacent island. So near is Ireland to England—does that not suggest something? "Be sober, be vigilant" is not merely a warning, but a divine command, which

it is clearly the duty of all professing Christians to obey; and surely there could scarcely be any time all down the history of the ages, when obedience to it was more necessary. A very excellent and practical suggestion has been recently made by a correspondent in a weekly contemporary, namely, that "loyal men" should be organised into some sort of association which might be a bulwark to our King in the "dreadful months to come." Another writer, commenting upon it, says:—"Let any such organisation have for one of its objects the protection of women, old women and young." In this I cordially concur, but I am most concerned with young women and children. Nurses, like doctors, are the trustees of the nation's health, and foreseeing how great will be the measure of physical degeneracy to posterity, if unbridled vice is to go unchecked, I trust that the resolution that was passed at a meeting held at the R.B.N.A. Club, on July 22nd, namely that a public meeting should be held in the autumn to demand punishment of an effective and deterrent nature for this appalling crime, will have a very practical response. In the meantime, all that we can do to show our detestation and horror at the very prevalent outrages on women which are now taking place in Ireland, should be done in all earnestness.

B. K.

KERNELS FROM CORRESPONDENCE.

SECOND TO NONE.

Miss Susan May.—"I notice in the reports of hospital annual meetings every committee claims that *their* methods and their nurses are 'second to none,' or the 'best in the world.' When the State Syllabus and State Examination are in force these vain boasts must cease. Anyway, we shall know which schools turn out efficiently trained nurses—and the sooner the better."

WHERE TO REGISTER.

Apply for Application Form to the Registrar:—
ENGLAND AND WALES—12, York Gate, Regent's Park, London, N.W.

SCOTLAND—13, Melville Street, Edinburgh.

IRELAND—33, St. Stephen's Green, Dublin.

No nurse who has not been registered by September 22nd will be eligible to vote for the Direct Nurse Representatives on the General Nursing Council for England and Wales at the forthcoming election, so that there is no time to lose if a nurse wishes to exercise her professional franchise.

Forms should be carefully filled in and the names given for references from persons who have agreed to supply them.

Do not delay to send in your application forms at an early date.

OUR PRIZE COMPETITION QUESTIONS.

August 26th.—What are the principal diseases of the urinary system, and the nursing points you would observe in caring for patients suffering from them?

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