

## COMING EVENTS.

ROYAL BRITISH NURSES' ASSOCIATION.

(194, Queen's Gate, S.W.)

April 28th.—Lecture on Florence Nightingale, by Miss Kathleen Smith, R.R.C., Matron London Temperance Hospital. 8 p.m.

April 30th.—Literary and Debating Society. "Dickens' Dream Children." 8 p.m.

May 3rd.—Nurses' Missionary League. 20th Anniversary. University Hall, 10.15 a.m. to 9.30 p.m.

May 4th.—The London Homœopathic Hospital Great Ormond Street, W.C. The Matron and Nursing Staff beg to announce a Bazaar to provide new bedsteads and bedding. H.H. Princess Helena Victoria will open the Bazaar at the Hospital at 3 p.m. Tea from 4 p.m. Suppers from 7.30 p.m.

May 26th.—Jumble Sale, Restoration Fund, St. Helena's Church, Thoroton, Notts. 431, Oxford Street, W. Open 12 noon. (See page 263, "Spires in the Vale of Belvoir.")

## 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.*

ONLY SERIOUS MISDEMEANOUR JUSTIFIES  
DISMISSAL.

To the Editor of THE BRITISH JOURNAL OF NURSING.

DEAR EDITOR,—It is, of course, very difficult to estimate anything of which our sole source of information is gleaned from the daily press, as one knows how biased are the accounts which appear therein, and unless one is in possession of the whole facts of a case, it is unsafe to pass judgment.

Generally speaking, only very serious misdemeanour could justify the dismissal of a probationer before the completion of her training, as such a step is, of course, of grave import to the trainee, and practically means professional ruin.

If such extreme action has to be taken, it should be carried through with an extreme sense of its gravity and consequences by those responsible.

Such undignified, and rather ridiculous, utterances as those attributed to the Chairman of the Brentford Board to terminate the contract of a probationer in its employ, will hardly commend the Poor Law Service to educated and refined women.

I can, however, gladly testify that we are not all tarred with the same brush.

HENRIETTA HAWKINS, P.L.G.

## KERNELS FROM CORRESPONDENCE.

"WAIT AND SEE."

Poor Law Pro.—The most important item reported in the Slatter case was her fear of not being up to General Nursing Council standard for Examination and Registration. But as there is still no compulsory standard of teaching after the

Act has been going three years, all Pros. are in the same unseaworthy boat. No one from the Council has ever visited this infirmary, or I feel sure the necessity for compulsion would be recognised; yet we are 'an approved school'—approved on paper, I presume; but it isn't good enough. Pros. here do not like to break their contracts. Everyone is as kind as can be, but that is not the question. As you say, we have now a *right* under the Act to a 'prescribed scheme of training,' and we have not got it. It is high time the medical chairman of the G.N.C., who has never done anything for Nursing, so far as I have heard, awoke to the fact that there will be no end of legal rows when his examiners begin plucking women who have been deprived of their statutory right to a standard training, and who haven't had it. And it is a sad pity Miss Lloyd-Still, the Chairman of the Education and Examination Committee hasn't the courage to stand to her guns, and see we have justice. I have written to our M.P., and other Pros. should do likewise."

"THE BLIND LEADING THE BLIND."

Queen's Nurse.—"I enclose cutting. Can nothing be done to enlighten Duchesses and other county magnates about the Nurses' Registration Acts? County Nursing Associations are still advising young women to get a 'look in' at nursing and the C.M.B. certificate, and binding them for three years' work in country districts. By the time their contract is at an end, either they must begin to train as nurses in earnest, to be registered, or remain midwives only. It is most unfair to these girls to induce them to make an agreement in the dark."

PRIVATE PATIENTS PAY FOR SKILLED NURSING.

A Registered Nurse, Birmingham.—"We learn that pressure is being brought to bear on the Minister of Health to have St. Chad's Hospital—which happens to be in Mr. Neville Chamberlain's constituency—recognised as a Training School for Nurses. This Institution is a private concern run by a company, and has no more right to rank as a general Training School than any other commercial private hospital, all of which should employ Registered Nurses and not take fees, as so many do, for unskilled nursing."

## 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.

IRISH FREE STATE—33, St. Stephen's Green, Dublin.

NORTHERN IRELAND—118, Great Victoria Street, Belfast.

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

## OUR PRIZE COMPETITION QUESTIONS.

May 12th.—Name six palatable temperance drinks for the sick and how to make them.

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