

COMING EVENTS.

MARCH.

March 19th.—The British College of Nurses. Council Meeting, 39, Portland Place, London, W.1. 2.30 p.m.

March 23rd.—Westminster Hospital. The Matron and Nursing Staff At Home at Queen Mary Nurses' Home, 20, Page Street, 3.30 to 5.30 p.m.

March 23rd.—Royal Society of Arts, John Street, Adelphi, W.C.2. The Hygiene of a Quiet Mind. Lecture by the Right Hon. Lord Horder, G.C.V.O., M.D., F.R.C.P.

March 25th.—General Nursing Council for England and Wales. Monthly Meeting, 23, Portland Place, London, W.1. 2.30 p.m.

APRIL.

April 9th.—The Matrons' Council of Great Britain. Annual General Meeting, 194, Queen's Gate, S.W.7, 3.30 p.m. Tea.

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 UNITED NURSING SERVICES CLUB.

To the Editor of THE BRITISH JOURNAL OF NURSING.

DEAR MRS. BEDFORD FENWICK,—Yesterday, at the meeting of the Board of Directors, your article regarding the Club was read, and I was asked to write and express the pleasure and gratification they feel that you should so kindly have given it such a splendid notice.

Yours sincerely,

M. F. STEELE, *Secretary.*

34, Cavendish Square, W.1.

TO AID OUR PREMIER MATERNITY HOSPITAL.

To the Editor of THE BRITISH JOURNAL OF NURSING.

Queen Charlotte's Hospital (Appeal Offices),
29, Dorset Square, N.W.1.

IMPORTANT.—Lady Howard de Walden asked me to write and say that the world's greatest lyric soprano, Lily Pons, the famous principal prima donna of the Metropolitan Opera, is coming specially from America to make her only appearance on Tuesday evening, April 26th, at Queen's Hall. She will also sing during the evening with another Metropolitan and Covent Garden star, John Brownlee, this year's Glyndebourne Don Giovanni.

To hear these glorious voices in a musically important programme will be a memorable event.

We expect an early and very heavy ticket demand for this, the most brilliant and unusual concert of the season.

Yours very truly,

SEYMOUR LESLIE.

[We advise early application for tickets.—ED.]

LIVE SPARKS.

To the Editor of THE BRITISH JOURNAL OF NURSING.

DEAR EDITOR,—There is no doubt that the nurses at the head of the Trade Union movement for nurses are live sparks and have obtained more publicity for their views in a few weeks than we orthodox nurses have done in years. I have often written to leading dailies advocating reforms, but, alas! my letters presumably have found repose in the waste paper basket as they never appear in print, but I note that Miss Doris Westmacott and Mrs. Iris Brook, of "The Guild of Nurses," and Miss Silverthorne, of "The Association of Nurses," command attention even in *The Times* and on the wireless! I was recently at a meeting in the Stratford Town Hall, where justice was demanded for a colleague considered to have been unjustly

treated—and the whole audience rose in support of tackling the authorities. This is a new phase in our evolution. Let us hope it will not be carried too far. Courage, however, commands respect and success.

Yours,

A BACK NUMBER.

KERNELS FROM CORRESPONDENCE.

Nursing Position very Acute.

A Correspondent from West Perth, Australia, writes:— "Our returned Army Nurses' Association entertained Miss Catherine Black, M.B.E., R.R.C., on Thursday evening, at our Club Rooms at Anzac House. What a very charming personality she has. I am quite sure King George V appreciated her. She is paying a visit to the Fairbridge Farm School, at Pringarra—as Queen Mary asked her to make a visit there if possible. She will find the children very happy; about 14 are allotted to each cottage and the British Child Emigration Society is responsible for choosing the children, and very few are unsuitable. It is a great credit to the late Kingsley Fairbridge. The school they are founding in New South Wales is about 200 miles from Sydney, and the one in Victoria 150 miles from Melbourne. The object of these schools is to train boys and girls for farm life in Australia, but if a child shows a particular wish for other work, aid is forthcoming, and a few have done exceedingly well at the University.

Infantile paralysis is still very severe in Victoria, nearly 2,000 cases and deaths 92. South Australia has had a few cases and unfortunately a shortage of Nurses. They have advertised in our local paper for nurses at £4 4s. a week, full board, 48-hour week, and one C.M.O. advertised for emergency Nurses retired, in case there was a severe outbreak. The response was *one*. The Nursing position here is very acute; three county hospitals have been closed, no Matron to keep them open, and our Council will be having a conference with the headmistresses of the secondary schools on February 26th to see if something can be done to encourage girls to enter the nursing profession. No lack of applicants for the Children's Hospital, but in future they must serve a certain time in an adult hospital before gaining their certificate. This became a State Law in December.

I was intensely interested in the account of Mrs. Bedford Fenwick's party on December 7th, in the British College of Nurses, and I pictured it all at 39, Portland Place. The gathering in London in July last must have been a great joy to her."

The Health of Hospital Matrons.

Matron of Small Hospital writes:— "The shortage of service both nursing and domestic in small hospitals needs enquiry. Recently I have literally been *bottle washer* and general servant, and it seems the more I do the more I may do. One does not like to resign because of sick folk."

THE "BRITISH JOURNAL OF NURSING" AND THE "MIDWIFE" SUPPLEMENT, FOUNDED 1888.

Is the Official Organ of the National Council of Nurses of Great Britain. The Official Supplement of the Royal British Nurses' Association is incorporated in THE BRITISH JOURNAL OF NURSING. Price, 7s. annually, including postage. Apply, MANAGER, 39, Portland Place, London, W.1.

PRIZE COMPETITION QUESTION FOR APRIL.

How would you prepare a patient for the operation of partial thyroidectomy? Describe the post-operative nursing treatment and mention any complications that may occur.

[previous page](#)

[next page](#)