

application of all his knowledge, theoretical and practical, combined with the possession of "the gift," will be gain, indeed, to the patient. Let us draw a picture of a perfect masseuse. She should be a trained Nurse by preference. Adaptability and suitability of temperament are also matters of extreme importance. Further, the masseuse should be a woman of fine and healthy physique, with strong pliant limbs, hands and arms of irreproachable acceptability to the patient, warm, dry, muscular, and magnetic of touch. She should also be of a cultured mind, a refined woman, doing nothing, saying nothing that could offend against the canons of good form and taste; of a bright and cheerful disposition, always encouraging and stimulating to a hopeful view of things, and not permitting grievances to be discussed, as this is very seldom a help to sick folk. That the time has now arrived when the public, for their own sakes, should take a more serious view of this matter, is now beyond question, so as to strengthen the hands of doctors and the very few legitimate operators in the field, on whom, in a large measure, they rely in times of real sickness. To sum up and apply the foregoing remarks—no person should employ a masseur or masseuse except under a doctor's immediate supervision, for these only (the doctors) are in a position to gauge the qualifications of those employed. Knowing, Madam, your constant anxiety to protect your sick folk, to you, Madam, I submit these few lines, and remain, yours obediently,

ANTI-HUMBUG.

Comments and Replies.

In a letter printed in our last issue, signed "L.B.," the sentence beginning 'Pain,' in line fifty, should read thus, "Pain in the temper (not temple) always accompanies attacks of hysteria when a cure is at hand, and thus causes a simulation of pain *always*."

REPLIES.

Miss Ida Woods, Manchester.—Enter a school, where you will have the advantage of three years' training and experience in the wards. This is now becoming imperative for the sure success of a Nurse. Be very careful to ascertain that no official has the power to utilize your half-trained services as a private Nurse. The system of sending out pupils as "thoroughly-trained Nurses" is now only persisted in by very shady Institutions. We hope that in a short time the public will learn to discriminate between the skilled and unskilled Nursing worker, especially as so many of the Nursing Institutions are doing all in their power to provide certificated Nurses of three years' experience. The Registered Nurses' Society will, doubtless, do much to hasten this greatly to be desired condition of affairs.

Mr. Joseph Collinson, Wolsingham.—Only original letters can be inserted.

LETTERS RECEIVED.

- A. Mrs. Roberts-Austen, London (with enclosure); Miss Annerley, Dumfries; Miss Jane Anderton, York.
- B. Miss Brady, Enniskillen; Miss. Alice Beverley, Leamington.
- C. Mr. Joseph Collinson, Wolsingham (with enclosure).
- D. Mrs. L. F. Dawson (with enclosure).
- H. Mrs. Harbin, Glasgow (with enclosure).
- K. Miss Annesley Kenealey (with enclosure).
- L. Miss T. Long, Paris; Miss Lysart, Donegal.
- S. Mrs. Strong, Glasgow (with enclosure); Miss Staveley, Cape Town.
- T. T. T., New York (with enclosure); Miss Travers, Hatfield; Miss G. Turner, Chicago (with enclosure).
- w. Miss Wallace, Bombay (with enclosure).

The Registered Nurses' Society.

(A CO-OPERATION OF PRIVATE NURSES.)

Membership is only open to Registered Members of the Royal British Nurses' Association of three years' Hospital training. Members will obtain their full earnings, less $7\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. commission—to cover the expenses of management. Any surplus will be set aside for the benefit of the members. Many of the leading medical men in London and the Provinces have promised the Society their cordial support. Applications for membership may be made, in the first instance by letter only, to the Committee, 20, Upper Wimpole Street, London, W.

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