

means of providing them with such a delightful Home of Rest as they have at 12, Sussex Square. My Nurse feels that she owes a very large debt of gratitude to the Lady Superintendent and Committee of the Home, as the kindness she met with was so great, that from being a complete stranger on arrival she felt as if she had found a real home. Everything possible appeared to be done to make the Nurses comfortable and happy and to make their visit a real rest.

Thanking you again on my Nurse's behalf,
Believe me, dear Madam,
Faithfully yours,

FLORENCE L. FORBES,
Matron.

General Hospital,
Tunbridge Wells.

THE WOMEN'S FREE HOSPITAL, SOUTHAMPTON.

To the Editor of "The Nursing Record."

MADAM,—I hope you will allow me to write a few lines respecting a short paragraph in your valuable paper, which says: "Appeals are being made to the churches and public bodies of Southampton for funds for the proposed much-needed Woman's Hospital in that town. Collecting cards and boxes are also being distributed thoroughly, and it is hoped subscriptions will come in generously for so admirable a project." It is quite true that an effort is being made to galvanise an unnecessary fad into vitality.

The "Woman's Hospital" in question is entirely a one man affair, and its management and methods have been thoroughly and exhaustively condemned by the Southampton Medical Society and the leading medical men of Southampton in the public Medical Press—I refer you to the *Lancet* and *British Medical Journal* of March and April of last year for details.

The women's wards in the Royal South Hants Infirmary are quite sufficient for the needs of Southampton, and the surgeons attached to that Institution are most successful in their performance of those special operations for which a woman's hospital might be supposed to be required.

I remain,
Yours faithfully,

M. MOLLETT,
Matron.

Royal South Hants Infirmary,
Southampton.

[We were under the impression that the proposed new Woman's Hospital had nothing to do with the Institution concerning which there has been so much discussion. We have to thank Miss Mollett for her information.—ED.]

TRAINING IN CHILDREN'S HOSPITALS.

To the Editor of "The Nursing Record."

MADAM,—The question of training in Children's Hospitals is one of great interest, and I shall be glad if you can spare me space in the RECORD for a few lines.

From the interesting correspondence which has been contributed during the past fortnight, it is quite obvious that the Matrons of Children's Hospitals are of opinion that training in Children's Hospitals cannot rank as satisfactory experience for a woman who desires to be a "thoroughly trained" Nurse, unless such experience is supplemented with experience in the nursing of adults; and so far no Nurse has written expressing a contrary opinion. It appears to me that there cannot be two opinions on the subject, and that our Children's Hospitals are in the category more or less of special Hospitals. This being so, is it not time

that they should be so classed by the Royal British Nurses' Association, as upon inquiry I find that under the present regulations for registration, the Children's Hospitals are still classed as General Hospitals, and the Nurses trained in Children's Hospitals only are eligible for registration?

This is somewhat extraordinary, when in your past two issues the Matrons of some of our leading Children's Hospitals—who are members of the Association—state distinctly that Nurses so trained cannot be considered thoroughly qualified; and indeed, we Nurses quite agree with our Matrons on this point. These are the points in our professional work which need free discussion in a Nursing Conference, so that some definite line of work and education can be designed for us before we begin our training. The present disorganised condition of training becomes more unjust every day to those who are ignorant amongst us, and who have to compete when trained with an ever-increasing number of Nurses wanting to earn a living.

Indeed, it is distressing to hear of the bitterness of spirit born of this terrible struggle for bread, which is deteriorating the character of many private Nurses working for their own fees in London.

SISTER MARION ROSE.

USE AND ABUSE OF UNIFORM.

To the Editor of "The Nursing Record."

DEAR MADAM,—It is impossible that a self-respecting Nurse would appear at the Empire Music Hall in either indoor or outdoor uniform. "A Hospital Governor" who received so rude a shock when he perceived this sight in the stalls of that theatre, cannot be aware that our uniform is nightly dragged in the mire, in all the public haunts of vice by women. I speak plainly, because it is an intolerable scandal that the regulation dress of women who are members of an honourable vocation, should be used as the garb of loathsome degradation.

The woman in the stalls at the Empire must have been such a fraud. Could not the Matrons' Council draw up a petition to the Head of the Police Force on this subject, and so protect our young Nurses from this insulting misrepresentation in our West End streets.

Also as the uniform of a Nurse is distinctly out of place in a theatre, cannot the Committees of our Training Schools forbid those amongst their staff—who are devoid of taste and tact, and who attend theatres in Hospital dress—to do so for the future—or is Hospital discipline entirely a thing of the past?

A LATE MEMBER OF THE REGISTERED
NURSES' SOCIETY.

To the Editor of "The Nursing Record."

MADAM,—A short time ago the RECORD did good service to Nurses in drawing attention to the arbitrary regulation in force in some hotels, forbidding Nurses to appear in the restaurant in uniform. This regulation has been abolished in two hotels I could mention, since your representations to the management.

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