



## Letters to the Editor.

### NOTES, QUERIES, &c.

*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 FALSIFICATION OF MIDWIFERY SCHEDULES.

*To the Editor of the "British Journal of Nursing."*

DEAR MADAM,—With regard to the case of Miss Gregory, I am afraid that the practice of falsifying a midwifery pupil's schedule is not uncommon, for I can speak from experience. About two years ago I went to a nursing home in South-west London, which shall be nameless. It had been recommended to me as an excellent place for working up for the L.O.S. examination. As the time went on, and the cases seemed to lag, and the "Sister Superintendent," as she called herself, requested the pupils to send in their schedules, I raised a protest, and after a stormy interview with that lady, refused to send mine in until I had had the requisite number of cases. Of course, I could not go up for that examination, but all the other pupils did.

I am glad to say I discovered later the self-styled "Sister Superintendent" was not a trained nurse. It seemed to me she was running a very money-making concern, getting as many pupils as possible, making all pay fees in advance, without the least regard to the number, or lack of number of cases. I felt very much inclined to go in for legal proceedings to get my fee back, but one never knows how such may end. Finally, I got my cases, eighty-three in number, from the Midwives' Institute, and worked under a trained nurse and midwife and member of the Institute.

I am, Madam,

Yours faithfully,

E. F. C. EASTCOTT, "Alexandra Nurse."

#### INSPECTORS OF MIDWIVES.

*To the Editor of the "British Journal of Nursing."*

DEAR MADAM,—I am sure that the principle you laid down in your last issue as to the appointment of inspectors of midwives is a sound one. Personally, as a trained nurse and a midwife, I believe that the best inspector of midwives is one who has herself performed the work which they have to carry out. A medical practitioner does not have training in this practical work, and cannot therefore readily put those who are wrong on the right lines. On the other hand, if the inspection of *buildings* is required, I should think that the best person to appoint for this purpose would be a sanitary expert, not a medical practitioner, unless he possesses this additional knowledge. But having come to the decision to appoint a medical practitioner, why limit the appointment to women? We women would consider it unjust if such an appointment were limited to men, and I think medical men have a right to feel aggrieved.

Yours faithfully,

LOGIC.

## Comments and Replies.

*Three Years' Certificate.*—Any certificate in a special subject will be valuable to you if you intend to take up private nursing. A private nurse with only medical and surgical training finds that she misses a large number of cases, for the public suffer not only from complaints which come under these headings, but require fever, mental, maternity, gynaecological nurses, nurses with a knowledge of massage, &c. You should hold a certificate of training in at least one speciality. Thus, the certificates of the Metropolitan Asylums Board for infectious nursing, of the Medico-Psychological Society for mental nursing, of the British Gynaecological Society for maternity, and for gynaecological nursing, of the Central Midwives' Board for Midwifery, of the Incorporated Society of Trained Masseuses, or that given by Dr. Fletcher Little for Massage are all useful.

*District Nurse.*—You would find the courses arranged by the Royal Sanitary Institute, Parkes' Museum, Margaret Street, London, W., very useful. Information may be obtained from the Secretary, Mr. White Wallis, at the Institute.

*A Believer in Self Government.*—The difference in the upbringing of boys and girls has, no doubt, something to do with the difficulty women find in effectively combining in after life. In their public schools boys live in an atmosphere of co-operation, and learn, to a great extent, to govern themselves. Until quite recently girls have been governed and disciplined, but never permitted to share in governing themselves.

## Notices.

### CONTRIBUTIONS.

The Editor will at all times be pleased to consider articles of a suitable nature for insertion in this journal—those on practical nursing are specially invited. The Editor will also be pleased to receive paragraphs, such as items of nursing news, results of nurses' examinations, new appointments, reports of hospital functions, also letters on questions of interest to nurses, and newspapers marked with reports of matters of professional interest.

Such communications must be duly authenticated with name and address, not necessarily for publication, but as evidence of good faith, and should be addressed to the Editor, 20, Upper Wimpole Street, London, W.

### THE SOCIETY FOR STATE REGISTRATION OF TRAINED NURSES.

All those desirous of helping on the important movement of this Society to obtain a Bill providing for the legal registration of trained nurses will find an application form on page vii., or can obtain all information concerning the Society and its work from the Secretary, 431, Oxford Street, London, W.

Those nurses who are working on behalf of the above Society, and are endeavouring to spread knowledge as to its aims, may be glad to know that they can now obtain a Memorandum giving briefly the reasons why Registration is necessary, from the Hon. Secretary, 431, Oxford Street, London, W. Price 6d. for 20 copies.

Those interested in the efficient organisation of nursing should procure the Annual Report of the Society for the State Registration of Trained Nurses from the Hon. Secretary, 431, Oxford Street, London, W. Six copies, post free, 7d., or one copy 1d. Gives brief review of the history of State Registration of Nurses.

### OUR PRIZE PUZZLE.

Rules for competing for the Pictorial Puzzle Prize will be found on Advertisement page viii.

[previous page](#)

[next page](#)