

pension for the nurse than I could otherwise have done. There was no "tinsel or parade" about this, simply a little human interest, and the fact that I am in favour of State Registration, and have signed a protest against the City Financiers' Scheme, proves that the Fund does not concern itself with nursing politics. Nurses, like other people, are free to choose their insurance office; the great thing is that they should make real provision for old age or sickness, and not be content with putting a little money into the Post Office Savings Bank one month and taking it out the next. If Mr. Somerville will give the names of offices which will give nurses "better value for their money," he will do them a kindness.

G. A. ROGERS.

Leicester Infirmary.

[We can only insert signed letters on this question. "Policy Holder" will note that what Mr. Somerville suggested was that "annuitants" should state, "what they have paid, and what they are receiving," for comparison's sake. We gather she is not yet in receipt of a pension, and agree with her that the chief advantage of the Fund is the Sick Fund attached.

"A. Armstrong" expresses entire satisfaction with the scheme, but gives no statistics. Whether the scheme is good is not the question, but whether it is the best. We hope some of those nurses now enjoying their annuities will give exact statistics, as there is no reason why the results of the Royal National Pension Fund should not be discussed. The publicity given in this journal recently to the question of percentages given upon withdrawal of premiums had very satisfactory results for the members.—Ed.]

THE VERB "TO ENDURE."

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

DEAR MADAM,—I am sure the majority of Matrons will agree that, even after a day off and a night in bed, the time for sleep is inadequate if night nurses go on duty at 7 p.m. without sleep in the day, and it is a very great pity that the Greenwich Guardians should support their nursing staff in demands conducive to personal pleasure, which must materially depreciate their fitness for duty. Time was when a nurse was taught to look to duty before pleasure, but nowadays this good old nursing spirit seems a thing of the past, and Boards of Guardians prove themselves incapable when they fail to support a Matron in her desire for the well-being of the patients by granting selfish demands upon the part of nurses, which makes good work impossible. One wonders where all this love of pleasure will end. All the old "grit" seems to have gone out of Englishwomen, high and low. An infirmary Matron's post is certainly calculated to call it forth. It is time with all our progress we called "Halt," and taught nurses how to conjugate the verb "to endure."

Yours truly,

ONE OF THE OLD SCHOOL.

[Lack of discipline begins in the home. Mothers are often too slothful to control and educate their daughters, and selfish habits are very difficult to eradicate in hospital life.—Ed.]

THE NURSE STEWARDESS.

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

DEAR MADAM,—It may interest you to know that the Royal Mail Steam Packet Company has for some

time employed nurse stewardesses, who must be fully trained, and also male nurses who have served their time in the Army Medical Corps, and the plan has given great satisfaction.

Yours truly,

C. A. ELLABY.

[We still consider that a trained nurse, as well as a doctor, should be available on board ship; nor can we see what the former has to do with the work of the stewardess, any more than the combination of doctor and steward. The hybrid "nurse stewardess" is merely a matter of economy upon the part of a steamship company, which should not be encouraged.—Ed.]

Comments and Replies.

Ward Sister.—The best nursing manuals with which we are acquainted are "Practical Nursing," by Miss Isla Stewart and Dr. Herbert Cuff, published by William Blackwood and Sons, and "Nursing, its Principles and Practice," by Isabel Hampton. If you wish to include *Materia Medica* you would find Miss L. L. Dock's book on this subject published by G. P. Putnam invaluable. In regard to Hygiene, we should recommend "Hygiene: A Manual of Personal and Public Health," by Arthur Newsholme, M.D., F.R.C.P.Lond., published by George Gill and Sons, Limited.

Notices.

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 xi., 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, 1½d. Gives a brief review of the history of State Registration of Nurses.

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.

OUR PRIZE PUZZLE.

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

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