



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.

OUR GUINEA PRIZE.

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

DEAR MADAM,—I wish to acknowledge cheque received of one guinea for prize puzzle.

With many thanks,

Yours faithfully,

M. LLOYD WILLIAMS.

Paddington Infirmary.

THE USE OF STERILISED MILK.

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

DEAR MADAM,—We have just had brought under our notice a cutting of your paper of June 3rd re the use of Sterilised Milk. We fully agree with your answer to "Dankbarkeit," as if Sterilised Milk reduces the risk of infective diseases, it at the same time disturbs the balance of the milk by precipitating the citrate of lime natural to fresh milk, which citrate has strong anti-scorbutic properties.

We think that the letter we have lately received from a doctor on this subject might interest your readers, and hand you herewith copy of same, with the name, of course, omitted, as etiquette prevents us from using this.

Yours truly,

per pro HENRI NESTLÉ,

W. BAW.

48, Cannon Street, London, E.C.,
June 10th, 1905.

[COPY.]

DEAR SIR,—For something like twenty years I ordered Nestlé's Condensed Milk exclusively as an artificial food for infants when the mother's milk was unavailable, and where the infant was suffering from the effects of other foods. Invariably I found they did well upon it when it was measured and diluted to the right consistency.

About the year 1899 I first ordered a condensed milk that was unsweetened and free from preservative. I thought this would be an advantage because of the absence of a large percentage of cane sugar, but I found it the reverse. Out of eleven infants who were upon the unsweetened condensed milk I got five cases of Barlow's Disease (scurvy-rickets).

Having never seen a case of Barlow's Disease follow the use of Nestlé's Condensed Milk, I put the patients back upon it, and without other treatment they all recovered rapidly.

This shows Nestlé's Condensed Milk to contain the anti-scorbutic properties unimpaired, and I had already learned, before I found this difference between Nestlé's Condensed Milk and a highly sterilised unsweetened milk, that the addition of cane sugar was unproductive of any disturbance that I could give a name to; being guided entirely by pre-

judice instilled into my mind by statements made by others, when I made the disastrous change in favour of an unsatisfactory infant's food.

Each kind of condensed milk has its utility in dietary, but for the feeding of young infants I have long been convinced, from observation, that Nestlé's Condensed Milk, notwithstanding the sugar, fulfils every useful purpose. My own children were brought up on it, and have manifested no trace of rickets or imperfect development.

I am, dear Sir,

Yours faithfully,

L.R.C.P., &c.

THE INTELLIGENT FEW.

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

DEAR MADAM,—One witness before the Select Committee said that only 1,500 nurses in the United Kingdom wanted Registration. But he had the saving grace to add that these were the intelligent few. Now, I have been in daily communication with a large staff of so-called thoroughly-trained and certificated nurses for years, and if the witness could listen to the banal and frivolous conversation of the average nurse, he would wonder that so large a number as 1,500 intelligent ones are to be found ready to associate themselves together for professional purposes.

At supper last night I noted the topics of conversation; first the Drama—every play had apparently been seen by one or the other present, the names of every actor and actress appeared quite familiar; then clothes—this was an all-absorbing subject; then light literature—not a rubbishy novel that had not been devoured!

Not one of the nurses at this Home pays for a nursing paper. Registration is never mentioned, and none of them knew the difference, when questioned, between the Board of Trade inquiry and the Select Committee of the House of Commons. This is a fact, and, in my opinion, a disgraceful one. Whatever subjects are included in the education of the to be registered nurse of the future, let those responsible see to it that the course does not produce the genus idiot—as the present one apparently does.

ONE OF THE FEW.

THE LIABILITY OF CORPORATIONS.

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

DEAR MADAM,—I notice that in the Liverpool Corporation case the Corporation was held by the judge to be not responsible for consequences of the acts or negligence of its servants. Is not this rather hard both on the servant and on the individuals who have suffered hardship? For if the corporation is not responsible, then I imagine the servant is.

Take the case of a nurse who disinfects a patient thoroughly; nevertheless, other members of the family, after his return home, contract fever, it may be from an entirely different source. Surely it is the duty of the corporation, institute, or co-operation with which the nurse is connected to stand by her and fight her battles. If not, what is the use of having a society at one's back? One might as well be working on one's own account. No nurse could work with an easy mind who had possible actions for damages hanging over her head continually, which, if successful, might swallow up not only the whole of her hard-earned savings, and the provision for her old age, but might easily make

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