



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.

A HAPPY HOME FOR NURSES.

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

DEAR MADAM,—Many nurses would doubtless find it a great boon to know of a really delightful place to stay at during a holiday, and which is within the most moderate means. May I, then, through the medium of your valuable paper say a few words on behalf of the Sir Julian Goldsmid Holiday Home at 12, Sussex Square, Brighton? It is situated near the sea in the most bracing part of this cheerful well-known place, and has some fine gardens opposite with a right of entrance thereto. Inside the house, which is large and well-appointed, everything possible is done by the gracious and kindly Lady Superintendent to ensure the comfort of the inmates. The food is well cooked, varied, and abundant; there are plenty of books, easy-chairs, and a piano for wet weather, with a balcony overlooking the sea for those who are disposed to rest when the weather is fine. There are no rules, and no one is reminded of her work by being addressed as "Nurse." Visitors may completely throw off the yoke of their calling for the time being.

Besides all this, other ladies than nurses are admitted, so that one may bring a friend or sister, and a pleasant outside element is thus introduced. The Home is open all the year round, and those whose holiday falls late may be glad to avail themselves of its comfort at a time when the Brighton season is in full swing. For myself, I hope to spend Christmas there. It is with a desire to have others share my happiness that I now write this letter. Thanking you beforehand for its insertion,

Believe me, dear Madam,

Yours faithfully,

JANET E. MUNDY.

THE SELECT COMMITTEE ON REGISTRATION.

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

DEAR MADAM,—I think the recommendation of the Select Committee on Registration that the Training-Schools should conduct the examination of their own nurses must have been intended as an olive branch to the anti-registrationists. If so, nothing could be more certain to fail of attaining this object. The antis may object to and fight against a central examination, but, after all, if it were once established they would take a certain pride in preparing their pupils for it, and in the place they took in the public lists. I assume a list would be published something similar to that issued in connection with the Oxford and Cambridge Local Examinations, with the names of the successful candidates in order of merit, together with the schools from which they came. It would be most exciting when the list ap-

peared to see which school headed it. It might even happen that a Provincial School gained this distinction, which might prove rather intoxicating for that school, but I cannot help thinking it would be a salutary lesson to London, which at present preens itself somewhat unduly on possessing the only schools which count.

If, however, the examinations are held by the schools, involving the right of supervision and inspection by the Central Board, what heart-burnings there will be. The fact of such supervision implies undoubtedly that it is possible the training-schools and their methods may not in every case be perfection. That will rankle.

On the other hand, those of us who hope for State Registration look forward to the Central Uniform Examination as one of the greatest factors in improving the standard of nursing education. We should, indeed, be loth to let it go. We know for instance what even a central examination instituted by a private authority, such as the London Obstetrical Society has done to establish a uniform standard in a special branch, and we look forward to a much greater benefit from an examination under statutory authority.

There are other objections, such as that of expense in connection with the efficient supervision of hospital examinations, but I must not encroach more on your space at the present time.

I am, dear Madam,

Yours faithfully,

PROVINCIAL MATRON.

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

DEAR MADAM,—The nursing profession is greatly indebted to you for the lucid annotation of the Report of the Select Committee on Registration, the more so as the quack nursing press have, of course, almost entirely ignored the importance of its provisions—one more proof of their futility.

It is quite impossible for the majority of busy nurses to buy and study the Blue Book, or to weigh the evidence without help. We are, therefore, the more indebted to you for the trouble you are taking in the matter—one more proof of the value of a nurses' Journal for nurses.

Yours truly,

MABEL ALLENBY.

A MATTER OF CONVENIENCE.

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

DEAR MADAM,—No doubt some of the readers of the BRITISH JOURNAL OF NURSING engaged in private nursing may have met the same difficulty on the following point as myself, and I should be greatly obliged if they could give me some sound advice on the matter. When two nurses are on special duty in a private house on a case which cannot be left, what is the best time to change over? If the time is arranged for a day and night shift, the family prefer that the day nurse is on duty early and that the night nurse can be seen on duty before they go to bed at 10 p.m., but this arrangement makes it impossible for the day nurse to get off duty for fresh air in daylight unless the patient can be entrusted to the family—not always possible. I have had difficulty about this point, and should like to know the general rule.—Yours faithfully,

E. M. P.

[The convenience and preference of the family must certainly be taken into consideration by nurses in a

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