

bad compromise. We pointed it out at the time. The weakness in the composition of the proposed Central Midwives' Board, and the injustice to midwives in not providing for the presence of one midwife upon it was pointed out in Feb., 1902, to the late Mr. Heywood Johnstone, by the Matrons' Council. Moreover, if it had not been for the action of the same Council, supported by this Journal as its official organ, some very unjust Annual Licensing clauses would have been passed; as it was, the matter was brought to the notice of Mr. Heywood Johnstone and the objectionable clauses deleted, a system of notification being substituted.

Miss Wilson's lengthy letter contains nothing to make us alter our opinion as to the justice of direct representation for the midwives. That the class governed should be directly represented on the governing body is a fundamental principle of good government.—Ed.]

#### THE "BOTTE ELASTIQUE."

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

DEAR MADAM,—“We must render to Cæsar what is due to Cæsar.” I see that you have published lately a short article on the “*Botte Elastique*.”

This treatment is due to Dr. Leroy, who published it in 1903, calling it: “*Traitement ambulatoire des ulcères variqueux par la botte élastique*.” Dr. Leroy's idea was thus to promote the healing of ulcers in cases of patients who cannot stay in bed because they must work. Since then we have often used it in our out-patient department because it is very successful. Cramps and swelling rapidly disappear, and patients enjoy the Botte Elastique very much. But one of the conditions of success is to raise the leg well high up for about one hour before applying the Botte, the patient sitting with the back resting against a firm surface and the heel on a level with the breast.

Yours truly,

ANNA HAMILTON,

Medical Directress, Protestant Hospital of Bordeaux.

### Comments and Replies.

Will our readers kindly note that our correspondence has now reached such proportions that we cannot undertake to answer letters unless a stamp is enclosed.

*E. D.*—We think your training and experience should fit you to take up district nursing. You might apply to the General Superintendent, Queen Victoria's Jubilee Institute for Nurses, 120, Victoria Street, London, S.W.

*Maternity Pupil.*—From the first washing a normal infant may be held out whenever it is changed, which is usually three or four hourly, and in this way not only is the child taught regular habits, but much economy in washing, a consideration in many households, is effected. The habit adopted by many nurses of turning up the back flannel of an infant in front in the case of a boy and at the back with a girl is not an old wives' notion. The reason is that if it gets damp it affords the greatest protection when arranged respectively as described.

### Three Prize Competitions.

The Editor offers the following prizes:—

#### No. 1. PRACTICAL NURSING ARTICLE.

A prize of £2 2s. for the best article on a Practical Nursing Subject, of from 1,300 to 1,400 words. Illustrations are not compulsory, but add to the value of the article. Papers competing for this prize must be received by the Editor not later than Saturday, February 3rd. The article gaining the prize and the name or pseudonym of the prize-winner will appear on February 10th.

#### No. 2. PUZZLE COMPETITION.

Details will be found on page viii.

#### No. 3. REMINISCENCE DURING TRAINING.

A prize of 10s. 6d. for the most interesting Reminiscence during Training, not to exceed 500 words. Papers competing for this prize must be received by the Editor not later than Saturday, February 10th. The paragraph gaining the prize and the name or pseudonym of the prize-winner will be published on February 17th.

#### CONDITIONS GOVERNING COMPETITIONS

##### 1 AND 3

Each competitor must enclose with his or her article or paragraph a sealed envelope, outside which is written the title of the contents only, and inside the title of the contents with the author's full name and address.

The Editor reserves to herself the right to publish any of the articles or paragraphs received for the competition. In such event payment will be made at the current rate; such article or paragraph to become the property and copyright of the BRITISH JOURNAL OF NURSING.

All competitions must be addressed to the Editor, at 20, Upper Wimpole Street, London, W.

### Notices.

#### THE SOCIETY FOR THE 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 iv. of cover, or can obtain all information concerning the Society and its work from the Hon. Secretary, 431, Oxford Street, London, W.

#### 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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