

THE POSITION OF THE ISOLATION HOSPITAL IN THE TRAINING OF NURSES.

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

DEAR MADAM,—Dr. Gordon's admirable article, followed by your editorial remarks on "The Position of the Isolation Hospital in the Training of a Nurse," is of very great importance, now that registration of nurses by the State is so near. There seems to be but one solution of the difficulty, and that is affiliation of groups of nursing schools.

As you point out the general care of the sick person and ward routine of work are very much the same in all hospitals, the difference in general and special hospitals is a difference in the class of disease admitted and treated. I should like to see the curriculum of a thoroughly trained nurse include medical, surgical, infectious, gynaecological and obstetric nursing, and in the case of mental nurses, not less than a year of experience in a general hospital.

I am a private nurse and have had practical experience in the five branches mentioned, and a list of my cases last year will prove that such experience is necessary.

Six surgical operations, three major; four gynaecological cases, two becoming obstetric; seven medical cases, one ultimately pronounced mental, one turned out to be scarlet fever and one measles; two cases of diphtheria, one operated on.

In the general hospital where I got my three years' certificate no fever but enteric was admitted, and no lying-in cases, and I was never in the gynaecological ward. Upon leaving, to fit myself for private work I took six months in a fever hospital and a midwifery qualification. Now I can just take cases as they come, although I do not go direct to maternity cases.

Yours sincerely,

A PRIVATE NURSE.

THE BRITISH LYING-IN HOSPITAL, ENDELL STREET, W.C.

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

MADAM,—I shall be much obliged if you will allow me the use of your columns to state that a Bazaar in aid of this Hospital (which is greatly in need of funds) is arranged to be held at Prince's Skating Rink, Knightsbridge, on May 29th and 30th next, under the special patronage of H.R.H. the Princess of Wales, H.R.H. the Princess Royal, and H.R.H. Princess Louise, Duchess of Argyll, and that the latter Princess has graciously consented to perform the opening ceremony on May 29th.

Amongst the stalls will be one conducted by the Matron and Nurses, at which all sorts of garments suitable for poor women and children will be sold, and, as there are many nurses throughout the country who have been trained at the Hospital, I wish to say that, if they would individually contribute one or even two articles towards stocking the stall, such gifts would be very warmly appreciated. They should be sent to me at 50, Onslow Gardens, London, S.W., before April 30th. I am, Madam,

Your obedient Servant,

EDITH C. MAUDE (Mrs. GERALD MAUDE)

Hon. Secretary.

Comments and Replies.

Miss Evans.—By all means obtain experience in mental nursing. Every nurse should have this knowledge if possible. As it is not as a rule obtainable in the course of an ordinary three years' training, it is necessary to devote some time subsequently to its acquisition.

Hospital Matron.—You ask what course you are to take when your Committee are opposed to State Registration of Trained Nurses. We should say convert them. Surely they will listen to what you have to say on the subject, and most unprejudiced people at once see the force of the arguments which can be advanced in its favour if these are clearly placed before them.

Miss I. L. Morten.—Some of the papers at the Paris Conference will be read in French, those in English will be translated.

A Sincere Admirer.—We regret we are unable to answer your question without more precise information. We are glad to know that you appreciate the Journal.

Three Years' Certificate.—It is not usual for probationers to receive training in eye work during their three years' course. We should advise you to obtain this experience in one of the special eye hospitals.

Miss Ellison.—It is a good plan to have some nursing books of your own, instead of relying entirely on the library in your training school, which you will not always have at hand to consult. You would do well to begin with "Practical Nursing," by Miss Isla Stewart and Dr. Herbert Cuff, published by William Blackwood and Sons, and "Materia Medica," by Miss L. L. Dock, published by G. P. Putnams.

The Nurses' Petition to the Prime Minister.

The Nurses' Petition to the Prime Minister respectfully pleading that the Government will undertake to introduce a Bill for the State Registration of Trained Nurses into the House of Commons next Session, will be found on page iii. of the cover of this Journal. Will all who wish to support this Petition whether medical practitioners, nurses, or members of the public, cut out this page, sign the Petition, invite others to do so, and then post it to the Hon. Secretary, Nurses' Petition, 431, Oxford Street, London, W. Will our readers also make it known that anyone desiring to sign this Petition can do so at the above address. The time in which to organise this Petition is very short, so we hope all readers will help.

Notices.

OUR PRIZE PUZZLE.

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

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