

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR.

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.

NURSES' UNIFORM.

To the Editor of THE BRITISH JOURNAL OF NURSING.

MADAM,—The uniform of the V.A.D.'s has been "protected" not because they are nurses but because they are attached to the military service of the Crown.

All General Hospitals in London which have a private nursing staff strictly enforce the wearing of outdoor uniform of a particular pattern.

Nurses in hospitals who for the most part get only two hours off duty, have no time to waste in changing their dress, and practically they all wear outdoor uniform, but I know of no hospital where it is compulsory.

Until some scheme of nurses' registration is adopted the "protection" of nurses' uniform is, in the nature of things, absolutely impossible.

Yours faithfully,

T. D. BUTLER.

A DOMESTIC AFFAIR.

To the Editor of THE BRITISH JOURNAL OF NURSING.

DEAR MADAM,—As a certificated Guy's nurse may I be permitted to offer to you my sincere thanks for your championship of Miss Florence Tubbs, trained and a silver medallist of the same School. Had it not been for your advice and the publicity given to this case this highly trained Matron would have been removed from an honourable position with a very serious slur on her character and capacity. Now, thanks to you, whilst repudiating any power over the civil committee of the Endsleigh Palace Hospital for Officers, the War Office has been compelled to state in black and white in its reply to Miss Tubbs' demand for a thorough investigation, 'that there has been no reflection on your character from first to last.' Insufficient reparation for the injury done, yet proving how wise it was to refuse to slink out of the hospital as if guilty of moral delinquency, the only imputation which could have been put upon Miss Tubbs' action had she taken the advice of the chairman of this autocratic committee and left secretly at a few hours' notice. As a member of the Guy's Hospital League may I express the opinion that it was the duty of this large body of nurses to have made a protest against the manner in which a silver medallist of the School was treated.

Yours truly,

A MEMBER OF GUY'S HOSPITAL
NURSES' LEAGUE.

"WAR TEMPER."

To the Editor of THE BRITISH JOURNAL OF NURSING.

DEAR MADAM,—I also have had a taste of "War Temper." Every Sister in this hospital

wanted to go to the Front in the early days of the War, and as this could not be arranged, the seniors were granted leave, whilst the juniors were informed that it was their duty to remain at home. "War Temper" was rampant for a few days—one Sister taking to her bed and bedewing her pillow with many tears. After a few resignations calm was restored.

Yours truly,

COMPELLED TO STAY AT HOME.

To the Editor of THE BRITISH JOURNAL OF NURSING.

DEAR MADAM,—During this War we have all heard much of doing our bit. Of course, every trained nurse in this hospital wished to rush off to the Front, no matter where. Matron said it was very natural and hoped we might all take a turn at War nursing; but she also said the most difficult "bit" in a crisis like this was to stay in civil work and do it cheerfully. There have been fits of "War Temper" here, of course, and many of those with least control have gone on active service—let us hope "doing their bit" according to their own inclination may pacify them.

Yours truly,

C. G.

To the Editor of THE BRITISH JOURNAL OF NURSING.

DEAR MADAM,—May I place on record how deeply I appreciate the self-sacrifice and good temper with which the whole nursing staff in this hospital have worked since the beginning of the War. Their "temper" has been admirable, and as we are short-handed the extra cleaning they have had to do has been done most cheerfully. I quite agree with "Always an Interested Reader" "that all grades should take a hand with the cleaning and get it done." I set the example.

Yours truly,

COUNTY HOSPITAL MATRON.

FRENCH FLAG NURSING CORPS.

431, Oxford Street, London, W.

The Selection Committee will see candidates for this Service on Friday, January 7th, from 2.30 to 5 p.m.

OUR PRIZE COMPETITIONS.

January 8th.—Describe what you consider the most sanitary and practical form of bed-pan cover, and how best to cleanse spittoons for ward use.

January 15th.—How would you prepare for use:—

- (a) Chromic catgut?
- (b) Gum-elastic catheter?
- (c) Silk?
- (d) Horsehair?

January 22nd.—What are the chief functions of the stomach, intestines, liver and pancreas?

January 29th.—What are the causes of constipation in an infant during the first ten days of its life? How is the condition treated?

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