

of 4 weeks, the time on duty not to exceed 10 hours in 24 hours. Any time worked in excess of the maximum to be compensated by extra off duty, given during the nurse's normal working hours, and if extra off duty time due to the nurse exceeds 48 hours, board and residence to be provided, or the monetary equivalent, if preferred by the employer.

3.—That the Institutions for trained nurses on the co-operative system, and other Institutions supplying nurses for private cases and in Nursing Homes, the maximum working hours be 56 per week, taken over a period of 14 days; any time worked in excess of this maximum to be compensated by the same number of hours given as extra off duty during the nurse's normal working hours, and the nurse to receive, in addition, the fee due from the patient for the extra time worked by her, together with board and residence, or the monetary equivalent, if preferred by the employer.

In a recent correspondence in these columns the almost unanimous opinion expressed by nurses was for a 48 hours' week in hospitals and institutions, but freedom of contract between private nurses and their patients.

OUTSIDE THE GATES.

In the House of Commons on June 3rd, Sir J. D. Rees (Nottingham, E.) asked the Minister of Health what has been the result of the consideration given to the question whether a County Council could properly and legally provide hospitality for children of foreign nations at the expense of the ratepayers?

Dr. Addison replied "I am advised that there is no legal authority under which a County Council can incur expenditure for this purpose."

That is sound sense as well as sound law. Let those who desire to bring the children of enemy aliens to this country bear the cost. It is most unjust that it should be defrayed out of public funds, and is in many instances conscientiously and indignantly objected to by ratepayers.

COMING EVENTS.

July 2nd.—Colindale Hospital, The Hyde, Hendon, N.W. 1. Unveiling of the Memorial to Hendon Nurses in the Nurses' Home. Tea. Meeting of the Nurses' League.

July 3rd.—League of St. Bartholomew's Hospital Nurses. General Meeting, Clinical Theatre, St. Bartholomew's Hospital. 2.30 p.m. Social Gathering. Great Hall. 4 p.m.

July 14th.—Presentation of Prizes to the Probationers trained at St. Marylebone Infirmary, by the Mayor of St. Marylebone. Reception at the Infirmary, St. Charles Square, W. 3 p.m.

July 19th.—National Union of Trained Nurses. Lecture, "Unemployment Insurance," by Miss Florence, Secretary, Women Clerks and Secretaries' Friendly Society, 46, Marsham St., S.W. 7 p.m.

A WORD FOR THE WEEK.

POURQUOI NON ?

Cet animal est très méchant
Quand on l'attaque il se défend.

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.

NATIONAL UNION OF TRAINED NURSES. THE N.U.T.N. AND THE P.U.T.N.

To the Editor of THE BRITISH JOURNAL OF NURSING.

DEAR MADAM,—The unfortunate similarity of the two names and abbreviations is causing a very general confusion, I therefore write to point out that the National Union of Trained Nurses is *not* a Trade Union and has no connection with the Professional Union of Trained Nurses, the newly-formed Trade Union.

Yours faithfully,

M. L. RIMMER,

Hon. Organising Secretary.

[The same confusion arose between the long-established National Council of Trained (Registered) Nurses, and the Nurses' Social Union, when the latter assumed the title of National Union of Trained Nurses, but as the former has now dropped the word "Trained" and retained "Registered" in the future less confusion will arise. There is no doubt many nurses do not understand modern trades unionism, and they will be some time before they will as a class take the trouble to study its ethics and objects, arbitration, and not the strike, being now its chief policy between employer and employed. The National Union of Trained Nurses' 46, Marsham St., Westminster, has a niche all its own in the nursing world, and being entirely self-governing commends itself to many thoughtful nurses.—ED.]

SUGGESTIONS FROM NURSES.

To the Editor of THE BRITISH JOURNAL OF NURSING.

DEAR MADAM,—May I point out that the question paper set for May 1st required competitors to send in proposals for organising (1) an eight-hour day for nurses in hospitals; and (2) how to organise a forty-eight hour week for nurses; not either one or other, as suggested by the comment in the number for May 8th. If this question were divided, I am sure many proposals would be sent in, but the two together form rather a large subject to be discussed in not more than 650 words. The eight-hour day seems to me impracticable, whereas a forty-eight hour week is most desirable. Yours truly,

A. M. DOUGLAS.

University College Hospital,
Gower Street, W.C.

[We shall be pleased to receive suggestions from nurses how best to organise either a forty-eight hour week—or an eight hours' day—for nurses' work. The number of beds per ward must be given.—ED.]

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