

Letters to the Editor.

THE NURSE'S UNIFORM SCANDAL.

To the Editor of "The Nursing Record."

Sir,—The letter in the NURSING RECORD of May 18th, in reference to Nurses' Uniform, the statements in which were corroborated by your foot-note, are of such a character as to demand serious attention from all interested in Nurses. The idea of a ribbon is good, but the protection of a Nurse's uniform is principally at night, and who is to see a ribbon then? Had we the Royal Charter, a uniform for all members might be patented, but, failing that, could not a tax be paid by all Nurses wishing to wear uniform, just as liveries are taxed. Hospital and Institutions might pay a mass sum for all their Nurses, and Private Nurses for themselves. Another suggestion is a luminous cross, which would be worn conspicuously, and would show anywhere. Something must be done, as, if the scandal continues, it may debar many from adopting a profession in which the recognised dress is no longer a protection but the reverse. If Nurses had never themselves discredited their uniform, by loud and fast behaviour, there would have been nothing to induce women of that class to assume it. Can nothing be done by publicity, such as writing to the Times.—I remain, Sir, yours truly.

A. M. B., Member B.N.A.

To the Editor of "The Nursing Record."

Sir,—I was very much pleased with Nurse Muriel's letter in your last week's issue of the NURSING RECORD. I think her suggestion a good one, and might well be adopted, but the prosecution must be carried out or no good would come of it; imitation would follow like the rest of a Nurse's garb.

Every maid-of-all-work's aim now is to get herself up as much like a Nurse as she can, and I notice so many in the country places where indoor dress is scarcely to be detected from a regular Nun's, and on my remarking to some of the girls on the way in which they have so closely followed, "Oh"! they say, "I think the Nuns look so nice." I am of your opinion, there should be a distinction between a real Nurse and a sham one. Why should we not have a registered uniform.—Yours faithfully,

A REGISTERED NURSE.

Replies to Correspondents.

Trained Nurse (Liverpool).—Quite so; but why were you so foolish as to believe what an interested and ignorant outsider told you, against the fact that the leading medical men and Hospital matrons belonged to the Association. We have not the slightest idea whether the Committee will consider you eligible for membership. We only know that in a very short time, unless you are a "Chartered Nurse," the public will look down upon you. For five years we have seen this coming, and have advised our readers to join the Association and get Registered. We shall probably never do so again, because every Nurse of any sense will, for the sake of the great professional standing which she would gain both with medical men and the public by being on the Register, hasten to apply for enrolment.

Nurse Ethel, Nurse Marion, Miss Elsie Burt, Nurse Cardew, Sister Theodore, A Matron, Nurse Belton, Nurse Denton, Nurse Howell, An Inquirer (3). Anxious (2), Indignant, and A Deceived Nurse.—See our answer to Trained Nurse above. If you will trust an unprofessional paper, no wonder you are misled.

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