

## Comments and Replies.

## REPLIES.

*Charlotte A., M.R.B.N.A., Walthamstow.*—In answer to your question, "Is it usual, at the present time, for a private Nurse to clean the stove, hearth, and sweep the room of the patient?" we can only answer, it is not now the custom for thoroughly trained Nurses to do the menial work of the sick-room, and in ordinary cases of illness she certainly should not perform these domestic duties if there are servants in the house, whose duty it is to do them. But the true Nurse has only the welfare and comfort of her patient at heart. "My work and thy work" do not come into her calculations, and if she is called upon to nurse a sick person, where the domestic staff is inadequate, she will at once turn to and do whatever her hand finds to do—cooking, cleaning, any service—for the sake of the patient, and which she feels will aid comfort and recovery. We are well aware that the public, as a rule, is very exacting from its "paid nurse," and this has unfortunately put the Nurse on the defensive. But true and generous service must win confidence and respect in the end, and we would advise you to examine your own motives in all you do and leave undone. One more word. You have your duty to your professional sisters as well as to the public, and you have no right to work under conditions, which, if universally adopted, would be distinctly unfair and distasteful—feeding in the kitchen for instance. If your employer can afford to keep several domestics, he has no right to expect you to feed with them, and they have ample time to carry your food to you. Can he but keep one, your own good sense will prompt you not to add to this busy person's labour. Nursing is at all times a most exhausting work, and if you are not strong you must find it doubly so.

*Miss T. S., Cirencester.*—We do not prescribe. Consult your medical attendant.

*Mrs. Gordon, Wrexham.*—Write to Miss Franks, of 23, Mortimer Street, W., she has every description of hygienic garment for ladies and children's wear. The National Health Society, 53, Berners Street, would afford you all the information you require, they supply most useful pamphlets and leaflets on the subjects you mention.

*Miss Pauline Cardew, Rochester.*—Obtain the "Nursing Directory" from 376, Strand, you will find in it the information you need. Enter a general Hospital which gives the three years training in its wards; enquire before signing the contract if the Probationers are required to do private nursing during that period, if so, on no account enter any Hospital where this system is permitted.

## LETTERS RECEIVED.

- A. Mrs. Roberts-Austen; Miss Anerley, Reigate.
- B. Miss de B. B., Amsterdam.
- C. Miss Clare, Ennskillen.
- D. Miss Danvers, Forres, N.B.
- F. Miss Fanshaw, London.
- G. Mrs. Gordon (with enclosure)
- H. Miss Hamilton, Edinburgh (with enclosure).
- M. Miss Helen Mitchell, Clewer.
- R. Miss Miriam Ridley (with enclosure); Mrs. Rose, London.
- T. T. T., New York (with enclosure); Miss Turner, London.
- W. Miss Ward, Retford; Miss C. Watkins, Eastbourne; Miss Williams, Swansea.
- Y. Miss A. Yates, Birmingham.

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