

time through a complete course of training—in a differently organised Hospital, under, and with, a variety of characters—and a complete system of training can only be obtained in a good training school by entering for at least three years.

May I venture to say, before closing this letter, that I consider the training of young women in children's nursing is of the greatest value. The totally different requirements, morally, mentally and physically, of the growing and developing child, and that of the adult, call for a distinctly different treatment of the patient as a human being; and I do not think that a Nurse who is trained in a Children's Hospital only, is fitted thereby to nurse adults; in the same way, one who has been trained in adult work only is not necessarily qualified to nurse children.

Considering the large number of children that fall to the care of private Nurses, and that enter the wards of our General Hospitals, I shall welcome the day that includes a course of children's training in the complete curriculum of Nursing.

I remain,

Yours truly,

L. PARMITER,
Lady Superintendent.

Children's Hospital, Nottingham.

To the Editor of "The Nursing Record."

MADAM,—The question raised last week by "Sister Louise," as to whether a Nurse with three years' training in a Children's Hospital only, is fully qualified to hold the post of Sister in a children's ward, is most interesting to those of us engaged in this branch of nursing, and I shall be glad to see it freely discussed in the RECORD. From a Matron's point of view, I think that a Nurse whose training has been confined to that of children, while able to manage her ward well, thoroughly understanding her patients and their diseases, well fitted even to train her Probationers in this one branch of the work, has yet an incomplete training, as it is most desirable that a Sister should be able to teach, wherein the nursing of children becomes a speciality distinct from adult nursing.

All special Hospitals must necessarily be comparatively small, and as a rule, the theoretical teaching, and general ward discipline, is less complete than in a large training school. In this way, a children's trained Nurse misses the advantages of a wider scope, and a more varied knowledge of ward management. At the same time, a Nurse only trained in a General Hospital, even including a specified time passed in a children's ward, is not well fitted to undertake the work of a children's ward Sister.

I cannot think it, however, necessary that a Nurse with three years' training in a Children's Hospital should be required to go through the full course when entering a General Hospital, and more particularly if she intends to devote herself to the nursing of children. And here comes the difficulty—for most of the larger training schools have now a curriculum of three years before granting a certificate.

Could it not be arranged that the three years' previous work should take the place, say, of one year's general training, in this way shortening the period of probation—a concession that appears not only just, but desirable.

I remain, yours truly,

A MATRON OF A CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL.

LEGAL REGISTRATION OF NURSES.

To the Editor of "The Nursing Record."

DEAR MADAM,—We Scotch Nurses owe you a debt of gratitude for keeping us in touch with events passing in the Nursing world. Were it not for the RECORD we should hear only one side of the question in matters which are of the greatest importance to the future well-being of Nurses and their work. I have read with great interest the opinions of the English Matrons on the subject of national registration, and agree with their views *absolutely*. I am a comparatively new member of the Royal British Nurses' Association, but I joined it upon the distinct guarantee of the Matron of the Hospital in which I was trained, that it had been publicly announced in a pamphlet signed by the Royal President of the Association, that registration of Nurses by Act of Parliament was the aim of the Association. I only joined the Royal British Nurses' Association to co-operate with my fellow Nurses to obtain such registration. If the Association intends to oppose such legislation in the future, can we Nurses not join a Society whose policy will be consistent?

Yours gratefully,

A GLASGOW NURSE.

A SAD CASE.

To the Editor of "The Nursing Record."

MADAM,—In consequence of my attention having been called by your sympathetic note to the sad case of Miss Henrietta Stewart, I have had much pleasure in forwarding my votes to the office on her behalf, and of doing what little I could to obtain other votes for her. I would suggest that the matter might, through your influential columns, be brought with much advantage to the knowledge of the War Office authorities, and that perhaps further particulars might with benefit be given in the official list of the United Kingdom Beneficent Association. All the reference there made is as follows:—

No. 376: Stewart, Miss Henrietta, aged 57, father owned small Scotch estate. Suffers from paralysis. Cannot move without assistance.

If it were stated and known that this lady has had so long and honourable a career in the Nursing world, and that she had been, for her services in the field, decorated by Her Majesty with the Royal Red Cross, I feel confident that much public and professional sympathy would be accorded to her.

I am, Madam,

Yours faithfully,

M. D.

[We trust that our readers will do all in their power to assist Miss Stewart.—ED.]

THE MIDWIFE QUESTION.

To the Editor of "The Nursing Record."

DEAR MADAM,—I read with considerable interest the article in last week's issue of the NURSING RECORD on the proposed Midwives Bill, and am quite at one with the writer in not wishing to see any such Bill pass through Parliament in the form it is likely to take at the present time. I think the writer is, however, no doubt unconsciously, a little unfair in the comparison he draws between the medical man who is required to pass through five years' systematic study and instruction before he can practise obstetrics, and

[previous page](#)

[next page](#)