

people; and March, when the snow melts and the impurities, kept safely frozen up all winter, escape, is the worst time of the year, although the autumn is sometimes nearly as bad.

It is said here that, in a case of typhoid, one of three parts is chiefly affected—the head, the lungs, or the stomach. I repeat what I have been told—the stomach may mean Peyer's glands, I will not take it upon myself to alter the word.

Climate has so much to answer for in fevers that I am inclined to think the "black typhus" is true typhus fever; that the, so-called, typhoid is a malarial fever; while what in England is called typhoid is very rare; certainly the treatment is not the same as in England, and the doctors are wonderfully clever in their management of it. I have heard of one little child, suffering from a mild attack, who was never kept in bed at all. He was allowed to play about at will; when the fever got higher in the afternoon he generally wanted to lie down for a little. The fever ran its usual three weeks' course, and after the 21st day he quickly recovered.

In another most serious case, the patient, a boy of about six, lay for 48 hours at the time of the crisis with an ice-bag to his head, and another on his abdomen. He also recovered, and suffered no ill effects, but the doctor warned his parents that he had very slight hope of pulling him through.

Some people maintain that a recurrence of the fever is likely to take place a year after the first attack if it has been a severe one.

I am much interested in the subject, and have been trying to collect information, but there is no English Nurse here; the doctors do not, as a rule, speak English; and we must all have experienced the difficulty of getting reliable information from mothers.

Yours truly,

M. E. F.

#### INCREASED FEES.

To the Editor of "The Nursing Record."

DEAR MADAM,—I quite agree with "A Private Nurse" concerning the strain of nursing hysteria cases, and in consequence, that the nursing of these patients should be paid for at a higher rate than of persons who are only physically ill. Lunatic attendants charge as a rule £3 3s. a week, and their work is comparatively easy, owing to the fact that they are given ample control over the insane, whereas with hysterical patients, they are usually sufficiently sane to resent the absolute control of the Nurse, and in consequence have to be managed entirely by tact and will power. And it is the exertion of this latter faculty, upon the part of the nurse, which is so exhausting to her. It is, however, to be much regretted that the competition of the half-trained Nurse prevents us from obtaining just fees, but so long as our large Hospitals undersell us, by paying their private staff of Nurses from £25 to £30 a year, and make large profits by charging the public from £1 1s. 6d. for their services, so long will our fees remain at a starvation rate. Great gratitude is due to the NURSING RECORD upon the part of Private Nurses, that it has so consistently exposed this most unjust system upon the part of Hospitals, which misname themselves "Charitable Institutions." Much bitterness has thus been aroused in the minds of the public, concerning these proceedings, and it is no

doubt doing its share to produce the feeling of disquietude and antagonism upon the part of the really charitable supporters of these Institutions, of which we have every day fresh evidence in the press. I am entirely in sympathy with your opinion, that no Hospital should make a profit out of its Nurses' labour in private houses. Imagine the medical staff paying 75 per cent. of their fees made in private practice to the charitable Institutions with which they are connected, and yet is it not true that the medical staff of the London Hospital, and Guy's Hospital, have encouraged this system in connection with those Institutions for years past? It means that many private Nurses are reduced to beggary.

Yours,

A HUNGRY NURSE.

#### "THE "ANGEL-NURSE."

To the Editor of "The Nursing Record."

MADAM,—In a piece of poetry I recently read on the Hospital Nurse these lines occur:—

"Oh! noble woman, justly called,  
To whom this task is given;  
She may not have her reward on earth  
But she surely will in Heaven."

Are we never to eliminate this idea of Angel-Nurses? I look round me on my colleagues and I find them mostly, honorable, good, and straightforward women, who do their work unselfishly and often with devotion. But I cannot say that, as a class, they strike me as being more angelic than any other body of women. Exceptions there are, in the nursing, and in other professions, but I do not know that Nurses wish to claim a larger percentage of Angel in their composition than in that of ordinary mortals.

Sincerely yours,

A HUMAN NURSE.

#### NURSE OR GOVERNESS?

To the Editor of "The Nursing Record."

MADAM,—I often wonder whether the people who insert such curious advertisements as the following ever receive replies.

WANTED, a GOVERNESS, with special training in mental cases, to take charge of the education of a young lady living in Kent, one hour from London.—Apply, stating salary required, to—

Now should not this advertisement have been for a Nurse trained in mental cases who was at the same time capable of giving some education to her patients. It is hardly likely that a professional Governess would have had special training in mental cases. I make rather a study of advertisements, and I find the average person is extremely vague as to what he or she requires.

Sincerely yours,

AN ADVERTISEMENT READER.

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