

LOCUM TENENS.

To the Editor of "The Nursing Record."

DEAR MADAM,—I read with interest your article in a recent issue on "Nursing Methods at the Metropolitan Hospital," and what struck me was this—what right has any *locum tenens* to make alterations in a hospital of which she is only temporarily in charge? Her own ideas, however excellent, should surely be subordinate to those of the permanent matron for whom she is acting. How will the matron, on her return, appreciate the changes that have been made for her? I should not, if I were in her place.

Yours faithfully,

A LOOKER-ON.

A PRACTICAL DIFFICULTY.

To the Editor of "The Nursing Record."

DEAR MADAM,—If you can spare space in your valuable journal will you allow me to ask the opinion of other matrons as to the best arrangement for the supervision of night nurses, where there is only one night superintendent. I find it a great difficulty, as often when I have secured the services of a really suitable and efficient night superintendent, I lose her, because she cannot stand night duty any longer. Of course this is only natural, but it is none the less trying, and very bad for the discipline of the hospital. My own idea is that it would be best for the night superintendent and the out-patient sister to change duties every two months, but I should be glad to know what is done in other hospitals of about eighty beds. Apologizing for trespassing upon your valuable space,

I am, yours truly,

MATRON.

NAME! NAME!

To the Editor of "The Nursing Record."

DEAR MADAM,—I have been reading with great interest the correspondence in the *Morning Post*, concerning nurses' hours on duty, and food. But what is the use of these general accusations? Why have people not got the courage of their opinions? For instance, you go straight for the present grievances at the Metropolitan Hospital, and, as I have a friend at court, I may tell you that your article has caused quite a stir at that institution, and that the nurses are deeply grateful to you for drawing the attention of the public to the condition of affairs. Nothing has much effect in these degenerate days in the management of public institutions excepting the fear of public opinion, and the consequent fear of a decrease of public support. Allow me to wish you, and those engaged with you in exposing the abuses in the management of the Royal British Nurses' Association, the success you deserve. I am sure you are on the right track in making the matter public, and the sympathy of all honourable people will be with you.

I am, yours truly,

A NURSE'S MOTHER.

THE RED CROSS, AND THE ENGLISH HOSPITALS IN GREECE.

To the Editor of "The Nursing Record."

DEAR MADAM,—Does it not seem rather amusing, not to say impertinent, that the Editor of a semi-professional journal should sit in his office in London and lay down the law about nursing organisation in Greece, telling us how the work might have been better done? Perhaps, as you were *there*, you will kindly give us a few more details concerning this most interesting and national work in the NURSING RECORD, which is the paper in which I always seek for accurate information on nursing matters.

I am,

Yours faithfully,
A READER OF THE "RECORD."

ROYAL BRITISH NURSES' ASSOCIATION.

To the Editor of "The Nursing Record."

DEAR MADAM,—I was extremely glad to see in the last issue of the NURSING RECORD that, at last, influential public women are beginning to be alive to the condition of things in the Royal British Nurses' Association. It is the most hopeful thing that I have heard for a long time. While the contest is one between employers and employed, even if the section of the employers who are engaged in the fight is not a representative one, the struggle must be an unequal one, and the weak-kneed members will be intimidated. It must always be remembered that our opponents are at present in power, and we know how much easier it is to go with the stream than against it. I therefore welcome the co-operation and support of independent women as the most hopeful thing that has happened to us for a long time.

I am Dear Madam,
Yours faithfully,
AN OLD MEMBER.

WANTED ADVICE!

To the Editor of "The Nursing Record."

DEAR MADAM,—Now that the holiday season has come round once more, and many nurses will be doing much bicycling, I am writing to ask you if, through the medium of discussion in the NURSING RECORD, a more suitable bicycling costume could not be designed than any that has yet been suggested. I do not mean a uniform costume, of course, as I think that we nurses are wise to leave our uniforms behind us when we take our holidays, if only for the reason that directly the public see a uniform they think it incumbent to talk "shop." But I ask for advice in the NURSING RECORD, because nurses are nothing if they are not practical, and no costume which has yet been devised seems to me to be both practical and becoming.

Every cyclist will I think agree with me. We have all sought in vain for a garment which meets our requirements, and the ideal one has yet to be invented. I hope, therefore, some practical nurse and ardent cyclist will produce something which satisfies our aspirations. To do so I would suggest that the costume must be cool, comfortable, practical, and becoming.

I am, Dear Madam,
Yours faithfully,
A CYCLIST.

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