

### Comments and Replies.

*Nurse P., Bristol.*—We conclude you mean the *Medical Times and Hospital Gazette*, which is the organ of the Incorporated Medical Practitioners' Association. It is the only Medical Journal we know which is published at 2d. It may be obtained from the Manager, 11, Adam Street, Strand, W.C.

*Staff Nurse, London.*—You might represent to your matron the desire of the senior nurses for some distinctive mark, and ask her to consider the matter, and if she thinks well to take steps to obtain this privilege for you. You will see, in our issue of last week, that the custom is being adopted by various training schools.

*Nurse Effie, Crojdon.*—We cannot advise you to join the club you mention until a very objectionable rule is expunged. Perhaps the Women's Institute at 15, Grosvenor Crescent, Hyde Park Corner, will meet your need.

*Miss R., Lancaster.*—We do not share your dislike of the "new woman," who, as we understand her, is all that is truest and best. She is not the travesty which she is so often represented to be, but a reasonable being, who can think, act, and work for herself, who is not afraid to face facts, and who desires to see her sex self-reliant and self-respecting. All these things are compatible with, and are indeed the outcome of, virtues which are essentially feminine. There is still a great deal of nonsense talked about its being derogatory to a woman to earn her own living; though, happily, more wholesome views on the subject are becoming disseminated. It is a great deal more derogatory to a woman to be helpless, and dependent upon others for her support, than to put her hand to the plough, and acquire a thorough knowledge of a profession by which she can earn enough to maintain herself should occasion require. Added to this,

supposing that she has no duties that require her presence at home a young girl is, in our opinion, much happier if she follows her bent and develops her own individuality. We do not, of course, approve of the young person who said she wished to become a nurse because her mother was an invalid, her father was out all day, and, as she was the only child, it was so dull at home.

*Children's Nurse, Newcastle.*—Babies born with hare-lip are sometimes operated upon within a few days of their birth with excellent results. The deformity may be single or double. The operation consists in paring the edges of the fissure, transfixing it with what are known as hare-lip pins, and so bringing the edges together. After the pins have been secured in position by means of silk twisted round the pins in a figure of eight design, the ends are cut off short, and a dressing usually of sal alembroth gauze, applied with collodion, placed under the pins, and over the wound. A piece of strapping, of a dumb-bell shape, narrow across the lip and wide at each end, is then brought from cheek to cheek as an additional security to prevent the wound from gaping. The duties of the nurse are to watch for hæmorrhage, and to prevent any strain upon the wound. To secure this the child must, if possible, be prevented from crying, and it must not be allowed to suck from a bottle, but must be fed at regular intervals with a spoon. For these reasons it is well that a baby, which has been operated on for hare-lip, should have two special nurses, at any rate, for the first week after operation. Hare-lip is not unfrequently associated with cleft-palate, but this is usually not operated upon until the child is at least a year old. Special teats, with a tongue designed to cover the cleft, and so to prevent the milk passing the wrong way, can now be procured for babies' bottles.

*Private Nurse, Leicester.*—"Vimbos" was used in large quantities in nursing the wounded during the Græco-Turkish War. It has a delightful flavour, and proved very valuable. Write to 130, Queen Victoria Street, E.C.

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