

THE BENEFITS OF AFFILIATION.

To the Editor of the "British Journal of Nursing."

DEAR MADAM,—I have read with interest, and with some envy, the views of your correspondent as to the benefits of affiliation—interest because I feel sure with her that nothing but good can come of drawing closer the bonds which unite us, and envy because I see no means of entering into such affiliation, as we have no League of Nurses in connection with the school where I was trained, nor do I see any prospect of one being formed. I should welcome the formation of such a League, and so, I know, would many other certificated nurses of the hospital. I am fond of my training-school, but rarely go back to it because the Matron and nearly all the Sisters have changed since I left, and I feel quite an outsider. How different it would be if we could return periodically as recognised members of the school, and meet those trained in our own time and discuss present-day problems with them.

The League idea seems to me a splendid one, and the natural and healthy method of binding together the nurses of a school, as well as of bringing them into touch with others.

I am, dear Madam,
Yours faithfully,
ISOLATION.

THE HOP-PICKING MISSION.

To the Editor of the "British Journal of Nursing."

DEAR MADAM,—By the end of this month Mid and West Kent will again be visited by some 40,000 or more hop pickers, chiefly from London. The softening effect of the presence and work among these rough people of our voluntary lady workers and nurses is a proved and most gratifying fact, and the opening of temporary hospitals in disused cottages, sheds, or tents; club rooms, where letters can be written and books and papers read; and coffee-stalls and barrows, which are worked by the ladies, have been most valuable agencies in raising the tone and increasing the comfort of the immigrant hop picker. We are asked to supply forty-one experienced lady workers and trained nurses for this season's hop picking, all of whom most unselfishly give their services, out-of-pocket expenses only being refunded, and to the general public we have to look for the wherewithal in support of the work. May I, therefore, again appeal to the generosity of your readers for subscriptions, which may be sent to me at Teston Rectory, Maidstone, or paid into Messrs. Child's Bank, 1, Fleet Street, E.C.

We shall also be most grateful for parcels of literature forwarded to me to Wateringbury Station, S.E. and C. Railway, and bundles of old linen, a large quantity of which is used by the nurses for burns and poisoned hands, from which the hop-pickers suffer a good deal.

May I add, we have no paid officers, our working expenses being simply for postages and printing.

I am, Sir,

Your obedient servant,

FRANCIS G. OLIPHANT,

Hon. Sec. Hop-Picking Mission Committee,
and Rector of Teston, Kent.

Teston Rectory, Maidstone.

Comments and Replies.

Miss M. A., Regent's Park.—We should advise you to apply to the Matron of a general hospital training-school containing not less than a hundred beds, and giving a course of three years' training in the wards, and which examines the pupils before certifying them. You would find information as to the regulations of the various hospitals in the "Nursing Directory" published under the authority of the Matrons' Council at 11, Adam Street, Strand, W.C., price 5s.

Miss Curtis, Birmingham.—We should not advise you to attempt to give instruction in the care of infants as a Health Lecturer if you have had no practical experience in this branch of work, even if you are a trained nurse. Information acquired from text-books for teaching purposes is of little or no value, and you would be wise to decline to teach a subject with which you are not conversant.

Enquirer.—Excellent training is given by some of the larger Poor Law infirmaries which have well-organised schools. There is not the same amount of surgical work as in a general hospital. On the other hand, maternity training is often included, and this is a great asset.

Private Nurse.—Write to Messrs. Wodderspoon and Co., Gate Street, Lincoln's Inn Fields, W.C. You will find their charts most satisfactory.

Three Years' Certificate.—The offices of the Society for the State Registration of Trained Nurses are at 431, Oxford Street, London, W. Copies of the last Annual Report can be had on application to the Hon. Secretary at that address. Six copies, post free, 7d., or one copy, 1½d.

Provincial Nurse.—The inclusive charges at the Sir Julian Goldsmid Home of Rest for Nurses are a guinea a week when a double-bedded room is occupied, or 25s. a week for a separate bedroom. Applications should be made to the Matron, 12, Sussex Square, Brighton.

Notices.

THE SOCIETY FOR STATE REGISTRATION OF TRAINED NURSES.

The Annual Report, 1903-04, is now ready. All those interested in the efficient organisation of nursing should procure it from the Hon. Secretary, 431, Oxford Street, London, W. Six copies, post free, 7d., or one copy 1½d. Gives brief review of the history of State Registration of Nurses.

CONTRIBUTIONS.

The Editor will at all times be pleased to consider articles of a suitable nature for insertion in this journal—those on practical nursing are specially invited. The Editor will also be pleased to receive paragraphs, such as items of nursing news, results of nurses' examinations, new appointments, reports of hospital functions, also letters on questions of interest to nurses, and newspapers marked with reports of matters of professional interest.

Such communications must be duly authenticated with name and address, not necessarily for publication, but as evidence of good faith, and should be addressed to the Editor, 20, Upper Wimpole Street, London, W.

OUR PRIZE PUZZLE.

Rules for competing for the Pictorial Puzzle Prize will be found on Advertisement page viii.

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