

reasonable to ask that committees administering the endowments and other funds of our splendid hospitals and infirmaries should publish every second or third year an account of their expenditures in each department. That considerable economies might be introduced there can be no doubt. The sooner they are introduced the better.

Fewer members on committees, and a resident officer in charge over all, might soon reduce expenses.

Perhaps the best resident officer would be a general who has held a command, and is consequently experienced in managing all sorts and conditions of mankind. With all due deference he it said, medical men are not good organisers; neither their education nor the practice of their profession conduces towards making them so. But it may be assumed that a small committee, with such an officer as above suggested, might make the money go further. Our Army and our Navy are being reorganised to suit present times. Why should not our hospitals follow suit?

I am, dear Madam, yours,

ROSINA GRAHAM.

CONGRATULATIONS TO ALL CONCERNED.

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

DEAR MADAM,—As one of the old nurses of the Croydon Infirmary may I add my word of thanks to you, and congratulation "to all concerned" that it has at last returned to its former good ways, and its nurses are again to be sent out with their certificates duly signed by the most important person, the Matron who has watched their career and character for three years. It is one of the chief, if not the chief point for which our plucky Matron, Miss Julian, fought so long, and I am certain she rejoices with us that the certificate from our old school is no longer a discredit to the holders in that respect. We rejoice that she has won the victory, though she does not reap the glory except in the eyes of "those who know."

Yours,

"CAIRENE,"

Savoy Hotel, Assouan.

M.R.B.N.A., A.N.S.R.

THE INDUSTRIAL CONDITION OF NURSES.

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

DEAR MADAM,—I think "Self-Respect" is a little hard on us, private nurses. I don't want to uphold extravagance and self-indulgence; but anyway, they are the vices of the age, from highest to lowest, and somehow a nurse gets carried along in the current. Private nursing is very depressing and exhausting, and I know if we did not have a little amusement between cases we could not stand it for long. I know numbers of private nurses who are most self-denying and generous to their families. I do not want to boast, but I have helped to educate two little sisters and fit them to earn a living.—Yours truly,

S. G. T.

[We also know private nurses who spend nearly all their earnings in supporting their families; but the large majority are not very thrifty, and we own the "current" is very strong in these times, with such an extravagant standard of living amongst all classes. It is time someone started a "Simplicity Society" as an antidote to the vulgar ostentation of this pleasure-loving age.—Ed.]

Comments and Replies.

Staff Nurse.—Hæmorrhagic Diphtheria is a most fatal variety. The hæmorrhage is due to certain changes in the circulatory system, produced by the toxin of the disease, so that the blood escapes more easily than it should do from the blood vessels. In order to do this the poison must be very powerful. Hence the fatal character of this form of the disease.

Assistant Nurse.—The three thermometers in most general use are the Fahrenheit, Centigrade, and Réaumur thermometers. To convert degrees Fahr. into degrees C. deduct 32, multiply by 5 and divide by 9; to convert degrees C. into degrees Fahr., multiply by 9 divide by 5 and add 32; to convert degrees Fahr. into degrees R., deduct 32, multiply by 4, and divide by 9; to convert degrees R. into degrees F., multiply by 9, divide by 4 and add 32.

Miss Edmunds.—To be accepted as a nurse in connection with a Missionary Society it is necessary not only to have good nursing qualifications, but also to be in sympathy with the aims of the Mission selected. It would be neither for the benefit of the Society, nor for the happiness of the nurse, if she were out of touch with its primary object. As you say you know nothing about the work of the Society in question that is no doubt the reason why your offer was not accepted.

Country Matron.—We feel sure that the secretaries of any of the existing Nurses' Leagues would let you have a copy of their regulations, and advise you as to the best method of procedure.

Miss E. E., London.—We are glad to hear that you find it possible to do so much on your income as a private nurse. We agree that the expenditure of many nurses on luxuries is quite out of proportion to their incomes. They are brought into contact with wealthy people, and get accustomed to their method of life, and do not realise the necessity for economy in their own methods of living if they mean to put by for their old age.

Notices.

THE SOCIETY FOR STATE REGISTRATION OF TRAINED NURSES.

All those desirous of helping on the important movement of this Society to obtain a Bill providing for the legal registration of trained nurses will find an application form on page vii., or can obtain all information concerning the Society and its work from the Secretary, 431, Oxford Street, London, W.

Those nurses who are working on behalf of the above Society, and are endeavouring to spread knowledge as to its aims, may be glad to know that they can now obtain a Memorandum giving briefly the reasons why Registration is necessary, from the Hon. Secretary, 431, Oxford Street, London, W. Price 6d. for 20 copies.

Those interested in the efficient organisation of nursing should procure the Annual Report of the Society for the State Registration of Trained Nurses 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.

OUR PRIZE PUZZLE.

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

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