

THE INTELLECTUAL FEW.

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

DEAR MADAM,—You will, I am sure, be glad to hear what Mr. Montreuil said to me with regard to the above class of nurse: "C'est que vous avez des femmes remarquables parmi vous."

Mr. Montreuil was director of one of the largest hospitals in Paris (Lariboisière) and is now director of the Salpêtrière, at the head of 5,000 souls and forty-four blocks of buildings.

It was he who was sent by the French Government to visit London hospitals and to study the nursing questions.

His daughter is studying medicine, though she is very pretty and only 22. Is the opinion of such a man not worth having?

Surely it is a thing to be proud of to think that nursing which not very long ago was considered such humble work that it has only attracted those who wished to earn heaven by humility, or the scum of society, has now become an intellectual work which has attracted "remarkable women."

Rank and file there must always be, but let us hope that the future will only attract educated women.

In France and in America, where there is no question of gentleness and gentry, the great test is mental capacity.

Nursing is a profession; it is educational, consequently it wants, if not "intellectual," educated, serious-minded women.—Yours faithfully,

ANOTHER OBSERVER.

THE CHILD COURTS BILL.

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

DEAR MADAM,—May I call attention to a serious defect in Sir Howard Vincent's Child Courts Bill with regard to Clause 1, which runs as follows:—

"Where a child is brought before a court of summary jurisdiction, either charged with an offence, or in connection with an application for an order or licence relating to the child, the court, if it thinks fit, may order that no person shall, without the leave of the court, during the hearing of the charge or application, remain in or have access to the room or place in which it is to be, or is being, heard, except the parties to the case, the counsel or solicitors (if any) engaged in the case, the witnesses, and the parent or guardian of the child."

It will be seen that this clause, if passed as it stands, would result in the exclusion not only of the undesirable element usually found in a police court, but also of the representatives of the Press, whose presence is the only safeguard against the passing of cruel and excessive sentences.

If miscarriages of justice are to be avoided, publicity is absolutely essential. With the other provisions of the Bill we cordially agree.

I am, yours faithfully,

JOSEPH COLLINSON.

Humanitarian League.

Comments and Replies.

Sister Ada Hambrook.—We will answer your question next week, as it is a most important one.

Matron.—You would find Widderspoon's Charts very satisfactory. They are published by Widderspoon and Co., Gate Street, Holborn, W.C.

Our Five Guinea Prize Competition.

A Prize of Five Guineas will be awarded each quarter by the Editor to the author of the best article on some practical nursing subject of about 2,000 words in length, with illustrations, of which photographs or engravings must be enclosed, and under the following conditions:—

1. Each competitor must enclose with his or her article a sealed envelope, outside which is written the title of the article, and inside a piece of paper containing the name of the article and the author's full name and address.

2. The decision as to the winner of the Prize will be made by the Editor, and the decision must be accepted by each competitor as final and unquestionable. The Prize cannot be won twice in any one year by the same competitor.

3. The Editor reserves to herself the right to publish, if she thinks fit, any of the articles received for the competition; and in such an event will pay the author of such article the sum of one guinea, such article to become the property and copyright of the BRITISH JOURNAL OF NURSING.

All articles competing for the Prize must be received by the Editor, at 20, Upper Wimpole Street, London, W., not later than SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 23RD. The successful article will appear in the Autumn Special Number.

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 a 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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