

3. To protect the doctors from being constantly worried by requests and entreaties from nurses for testimonials.

Yours faithfully.

AN ENQUIRER.

[The sooner the system of giving testimonials to nurses is discarded the better. We never read them, as inquiries should be made up to date.—Ed.]

NURSES AS PEDLARS.

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

DEAR MADAM,—I read with amazement in your issue of last week that eleven nurses had hired themselves out to peddle soap from door to door. Is it possible that these women were really trained nurses? If so, it is high time some discipline was introduced, and code of ethics adopted, in our ranks. I suppose it would be an undue interference with the liberty of the subject to prevent a nurse gaining her living in any way she chooses, but, in connection with a soldier's uniform it is a punishable offence to bring the King's uniform into disrepute, and if nurses wish to act as pedlars I think they should be prevented from wearing our professional uniform and using it as an asset for pushing their wares. It is the badge of an honourable calling and should be restricted to it.

I should be very much surprised, however, if it were found on investigation that any of these vendors of soap were thoroughly trained nurses. If they had a pleasant and lucrative profession at their finger ends, why should they resort to the life of a commercial traveller, which, as we all know, is not an attractive life for men, and must be doubly unpleasant for women? No, I expect if the truth were known these nurses in uniform would not be eligible for admission to the Nursing Register when once Registration is in force. The sooner that day comes the better.

I am, dear madam,

Yours faithfully,

DISGUSTED.

FLOGGING IN THE NAVY.

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

DEAR MADAM,—Now that the flogging of young sailors in the Royal Navy is practically abolished, to the satisfaction of all humane persons, irrespective of politics, may I express to you the thanks of the Humanitarian League for the valuable assistance which you have given us by opening your columns to a discussion of this cruel and antiquated form of punishment?

Without the help of the Press, the agitation which has been carried on for nearly ten years could never have been so successful; for this was eminently a case where the best hope of success lay in a widely published knowledge of the facts. That knowledge the Press has spread for us to every corner of the kingdom, and the result is seen in the announcement made by Mr. Edmund Robertson, K.C., Secretary to the Admiralty, that birching has been suspended indefinitely.

I am, yours faithfully,

JOSEPH COLLINSON, Hon. Secretary,
Humanitarian League, 53, Chancery Lane.

OUR GUINEA PRIZE.

To the Editor of the "British Journal of Nursing"

DEAR MADAM,—Miss Tovey begs to acknowledge, with many thanks, the receipt of the £1 ls. Puzzle Prize for February.

The Retreat, York.

Comments and Replies.

In printing the list of new members of the Society for the State Registration of Trained Nurses in a recent issue the certificate of Miss M. Appleyard (1756) should have been that of the Royal Sea Bathing Infirmary, Margate, not the Worcester Infirmary. Miss Appleyard holds a four years' certificate, covering training in both institutions, but the certificate is given by the Sea-Bathing Infirmary, Margate.

Maternity Nurse, Clifton. — It is a very usual arrangement, if the services of a Maternity Nurse are not required after she has been engaged, for her to receive half fees, but it is important to have such an agreement in writing, otherwise if the employer contests the charge it is not possible to enforce a legal claim to it. We should advise you always to send a form containing the details of the agreement to your employer for signature at the time of engagement.

Notices.

THE SOCIETY FOR THE 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 iv. of cover, or can obtain all information concerning the Society and its work from the Hon. 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. Six copies, post free, 7d., or one copy 1½d. It gives a brief review of the history of State Registration.

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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