

the cruel treatment of an innocent woman. What with the R.B.N.A. cases of intimidation and all its jobbery, and now this Hostel scandal, one begins to loathe the very name of trained nurses, and to feel degraded in belonging to a profession of women, where such dishonourable conditions can exist. Suburban nursemaids are quite welcome to my official uniform: I feel ashamed to be seen in it. I have given away my cloak, and burnt my bonnet. No wonder the public distrust us!

Yours very truly,  
E. S. C.

[We regret that space cannot be found for many letters on this astounding affair.—Ed.]

#### THE CARE OF THE DEAD.

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

DEAR MADAM,—Whilst thanking "Justice" for the kind remarks concerning my article "The Care of the Dead," I cannot help thinking that "Justice" is hyper-sensitive. My only remark concerning undertakers was that their men displayed morbid curiosity in carrying out their sad duties, meaning that the face-handkerchief is lifted to see who the person is. I said nothing about a want of helpfulness, sympathy, or consideration, or so far as I can judge anything to imply such an idea, because that has not been my experience.

But I have found that curiosity can be combined with great kindness, and unfortunately I have had a fair amount of experience both among patients and friends. I am sorry I have unwittingly hurt anyone, but we know the innocent suffer for and with the guilty. I am very glad to know that some at least are striving after higher things.

I am, yours faithfully,  
MARY BURR.

#### BUSINESS HABITS.

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

DEAR MADAM,—I cordially agree with the remark of your correspondent "Superintendent" in your issue of October 20th. Nurses do indeed need business habits. I am Secretary of a large Charity employing many nurses, and the lack of business habit I meet with is phenomenal, and only equalled by what I meet with in my business connections with doctors. I often have to wait days for a reply to a letter the importance of which required a reply by return of post, and it is a common thing for me to be compelled to write two reminders to get a receipt for cheques sent to either our doctors or nurses. Also they seem to have the vaguest idea of punctuality in keeping appointments, and the important returns that our nurses have to render monthly of their district work are made out in a way that would disgrace any Board school child. It would be an excellent thing if training schools for nurses added "business" as part of their curriculum, and impressed upon the pupils that business habits are closely allied to courtesy.

Yours truly,  
A SOLDIER SECRETARY.

[We are compelled to hold over other interesting letters till next week.—Ed.]

### Three Prize Competitions.

The Editor offers the following prizes:—

#### No. 1. PRACTICAL NURSING ARTICLE.

A prize of £2 2s. for the best article on a Practical Nursing Subject, of from 1,300 to 1,400 words. Illustrations are not compulsory, but add to the value of the article. Papers competing for this prize must be received by the Editor not later than Saturday, November 10th. The article gaining the prize and the name or pseudonym of the prize-winner will appear on November 17th.

#### No. 2. PUZZLE COMPETITION.

Details will be found on page viii.

#### No. 3. A PARAGRAPH OF PRACTICAL NURSING INTEREST.

A prize of 10s. for the best paragraph on a postcard of practical nursing interest. See our weekly "Practical Points" column. Postcards competing for this prize must reach the Editor not later than Saturday, November 3rd. The paragraph gaining the prize, and the name or pseudonym of the prize-winner will be published on Saturday, Nov. 10th.

#### CONDITIONS GOVERNING COMPETITIONS 1 AND 3.

Each competitor for No 1 Prize must enclose with his or her article or paragraph a sealed envelope, outside which is written the title of the contents only, and inside the title of the contents with the author's full name and address. The covering envelope in the case of Competition 1, and the postcard in Competition 3, should bear the words "Prize Competition."

The Editor reserves to herself the right to publish any of the articles or paragraphs received for the competition. In such event payment will be made at the current rate; such article or paragraph to become the property and copyright of the BRITISH JOURNAL OF NURSING.

All competitions must be addressed to the Editor, at 20, Upper Wimpole Street, London, W.

### Notices.

#### THE SOCIETY FOR THE STATE REGISTRATION OF TRAINED NURSES.

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, W. Six copies, post free, 7d.

#### 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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