

AND YET AGAIN.

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

DEAR MADAM,—The following little account will, I think, interest you. I have been attending a well-known massage school, where the students are of all classes. One girl—and not of the best class—gave out that on gaining her certificate she should dress as a nurse, "her mother thought it would be such a protection." Sure enough she returned a little later, à la nurse, never, of course, having had any training, and remarked "she found it difficult to remember she was dressed as a nurse and sometimes found herself walking along the streets whistling." From samples of her behaviour and conversation at the school, if the young woman stops at this we may be glad. I made some remark on the subject to another fully-trained nurse and she said reproachfully "but it is a protection to her," to which I hotly replied it was just that sort that I personally did not want to protect. Will nurses never learn? Sometimes I think they do not deserve State Registration.

Yours faithfully,
E.R.

POUND DAY AT WALTHAMSTOW.

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

DEAR MADAM,—This is the 12th Anniversary of this little Hospital, and each year we have a Pound Day, or as it is now a Pound week. We have received in six days 6,450 pounds, such as:—Sugar 1,465, Rice 1,064, Flour 276, Tea, 76, Tapioca 129, Currants 235, Jam and Treacle 222, Loaves 383, and many other things. We started twelve years ago in a very small way, with 19 cots and a staff of two nurses and two servants. Now we have 45 beds and cots, 9 nurses and 7 servants.

This "Pound Day" store is a very great help in my housekeeping as we are poor and need to be very careful. The laundry work is all done in the hospital. We do not employ outside help. I thought perhaps our Pound Day might interest some of your readers, it means a heap of extra work, but all work with a good will.

Yours faithfully,
C. HUNTER,

The General Hospital, Walthamstow. Matron.

Comments and Replies.

Ward Sister.—You would find "Shell Brand" Floor Polish a very satisfactory application for polished floors. It is supplied by Archibald H. Hamilton and Co., Possilpark, Glasgow.

Would-be Probationer, Norwich.—The first thing to do is to write to the Matron of the Hospital you wish to enter asking her when there will be a vacancy and enclosing a stamped envelope for a reply. A personal interview is a necessity.

District Nurse.—Before going out to a maternity case in the night, a cup of Oxo is quickly made, and is good to work upon, while on returning from the case, before retiring to rest a cup of gruel, made with King's Patent Cooked Oatmeal, will be found most acceptable.

Last Words for 1906.

As is our custom, in our last words for the year we gather up a lesson from the past, and the one which we have chosen to leave with our readers this year is that of the responsibility of knowledge. It may be possible to find an excuse for ignorance, never for the neglect of duty in the face of a full knowledge of it.

Let us then face our obligations with regard to the care of the sick. We know the importance of efficient standards, we know that the sick suffer for lack of the enforcement of these standards. If we have taken our obligations lightly in the past let us shoulder them with earnestness in the future, and never rest till the term trained nurse has a definite meaning, a meaning which the public can understand, a meaning which is recognised by the State. Let no nurse who believes that the sick would be better cared for, and the honour of her profession safeguarded, if this were the case, think she has done her duty until she has done something to attain this end. Let each and all in the coming year realise the responsibility of knowledge.

Three Prize Competitions.

The Editor offers the following prizes:—

No. 1. PRACTICAL NURSING ARTICLE.

A prize of £5 5s. for the best article on a Practical Nursing Subject, containing 1,500 to 1,600 words, with illustrations, of which photographs or drawings must be enclosed. Papers competing for this prize must be received by the Editor not later than Saturday, December 29th, 1906. The article gaining the prize and the name or pseudonym of the prize-winner will appear early in the New Year.

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, Jan. 5th, 1907. The paragraph gaining the prize, and the name or pseudonym of the prize-winner will be published on Saturday, Jan. 12th.

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.