

an enfeebled people cannot be politically or nationally strong, and suggested that to the introduction of malaria from Africa is attributable a large part of the decadence of Greece and Rome. But is there not another aspect of the question? The European, with the malarial microbe in his blood knows well the apathy and inertia which it engenders. The new comer to a tropical country full of British energy, and apt to think that the bad reputation of the "climate" has been exaggerated, is told, "Wait a bit; wait till you have had a few attacks of malaria, and then see if you feel so energetic." He finds to his cost he does not. It is not to the "climate," but to the malarial microbe that he owes that deadly lethargy. And does not the same hold good of the coloured races, the inhabitants of the country? From their babyhood upwards the poison of malarial fever has circulated in their veins, and is always to be found there in a chronic form. Does not this account for the inertia of the lovable, but "lazy nigger?" It would seem that when their lands are ridden of the malarial mosquito, and their blood purified of its taint, the coloured races may develop characteristics at present quite unsuspected. It will be of extreme interest to note what occurs when tropical hygiene has—I fear for the sake of the white and not the black man—eliminated this pest.

I am, dear Madam,
Yours faithfully,
INTERESTED.

GERMANIA LOYAL.

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

DEAR MADAM,—I read the cuttings you sent, to show the persecution to which nurses are subjected in the lay nursing press in England. It is the same all the world over. Our dear leader, Fraulein Karll, has twice since January been harassed in the Law Courts by the Red Cross party objecting to our paper, *Lazaruskreuz*, and trying to make believe that our Cross might be mistaken for theirs. This matter is not yet finished. We have our reactionary party, just like you. All fear the emancipation of working women. It might make us more expensive. Even in the States jealousy of the splendid solidarity of the Matrons and Nurses makes detractors. All we have got to do is to be loyal to our sex and cloth. We are going to do our part in Germany to make the Paris Conference a success.

Yours cordially,
GERMANIA.

THE PERVERSITY OF HUMAN NATURE.

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

DEAR MADAM,—I was wavering about going to Paris, but Sir Henry Burdett's outrageous attack upon our Council and its work has determined me to do so, and several of my friends will go with me.

Yours truly,
A MEMBER OF THE MATRONS' COUNCIL.

Comments and Replies.

Miss A.L.R., Co. Down.—You will find all particulars concerning the arrangements for the International Conference in Paris in June announced in this Journal from time to time. We believe that the Irish contingent is making travelling arrangements through the medium of a tourist agency.

Ward Sister.—The "Perfection Bed and Douche Pan," supplied by Meinecke & Co., is one of the most comfortable for a sick person with which we are acquainted. The London agent is W. Toogood, Ltd., Heddon Street, Regent Street, W., and the price 8s. It has no corners and crevices, and can be readily flushed out. Anatomically it is correct in shape, and so causes no uncomfortable pressure on the spine, a great defect in most bedpans.

Notices.

PRIZE COMPETITION FOR HOSPITAL CHILDREN

The Editor offers a prize of Half-a-Crown to any child under fourteen years of age, and an inmate of a hospital, or convalescent home, for the best essay of 250 words on "How I Amuse Myself in Bed."

CONDITIONS OF COMPETITION.

1. Essays must reach the Editor by March 30th.
2. Competitors must write on one side of the paper only.
3. Each competitor must enclose in a separate envelope, with his or her essay, addressed to the Editor, BRITISH JOURNAL OF NURSING, 20, Upper Wimpole Street, W., the following Coupon, in which the required information has been inserted. Several of these envelopes may be forwarded under one cover, when more than one child in an institution competes for the prize.

Children's Prize Essay Coupon.

Name of Child.....

Age

Name of Hospital or Convalescent Home.....

.....

Certificate to be signed by Ward Sister or Nurse.

I certify that the essay by

now a patient in

is his/her unaided work.

Signature

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 can obtain all information concerning the Society and its work from the Hon. Secretary, 431, Oxford 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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