

selected? I cannot think so. Now that, by means of the system known as "substitute feeding," an infant whose mother is unable to feed it can be supplied with an exact equivalent of mother's milk, there seems not a shadow of reason why the wet nurse should not become extinct. The sooner the better.

I am,  
Yours faithfully,

JUSTICE.

#### PLAISTOW PETS.

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

DEAR MADAM,—Those who are equally the friends of children and animals regret the recent exhibition of English wild birds in captivity, and of other unsuitable "pets" in connection with the baby show at Plaistow. At a time when all thinking persons are striving to suppress the waste of bird-life and so to stop the bird-torture connected with the bird-catcher's cruel proceedings, it is regrettable that well-meaning persons should patronise exhibitions, and offer prizes, for what to any considerate spectator must be a pitiful sight—that of a wild bird in prison.

The redpole or red linnet is among the sadly dwindling British birds which are barbarously caught to pine behind bars. Its miserable incarceration is no elevating sight for children.

Moreover, it is a mistake to exhibit goats drawing children in carriages, just after the Royal Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals has condemned this practice. The *Daily Express*, March 6th, states the opinion of the Society's solicitor as follows: "Goats are not suitable as draught animals, and if they are used it necessitates cruelty." In consequence of this, goat carriages are now forbidden at Ramsgate, and the solicitor adds "With regard to other places I cannot at present say what steps will be taken, but we shall keep observation and do whatever we can in the matter."

I would suggest that a bad example is set by these exhibits at the Plaistow Show.

Yours truly,

EDITH CARRINGTON.

Portway, Wantage.

#### THE CANINE NURSES' INSTITUTE.

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

DEAR MADAM,—Please permit me to thank you for your kind notice upon my work—the above Canine Nurses' Institute. The immense amount of time and money expended upon costly hobbies in the canine and feline world gave me the idea that there *must* be a groove of work for sensible women and girls who need some sort of position in these competitive days. The result is very satisfactory, and will grow into greater result, I hope, soon. With reiterated thanks and compliments,

Very faithfully yours,

E. LEVY COLLINS.

45, Barrington Road, Brixton.

[We are glad to hear that there are already hospital trained nurses caring for the dear doggies.—Ed.]

## Comments and Replies.

*C. C. du S.*—The question of co-operative training of nurses is becoming a greater necessity every day, when all infectious and contagious diseases are eliminated from general hospitals, and special hospitals treat the majority of diseases in the most scientific manner. Enteric will soon be a thing of the past in Metropolitan general hospitals. Thus, in looking forward to defining a comprehensive curriculum for a trained nurse, soon to be a "registered nurse," a system of co-operation amongst hospitals will have to be arranged so that different branches can be practically taught to nurses in training. This has influenced Lord Amthill in proposing the amendment in Clauses 11 and 12 of the Nurses' Registration Bill, which reads, "A three years' certificate from a general hospital, or hospitals." Presumably it will not be impossible for a general hospital to arrange to work in co-operation with, say, a fever hospital for such of its probationers as require an infectious diseases course. All nurses wishing to do private nursing should possess this qualification. In Dublin, this co-operation between general, infectious, and in some instances maternity, hospitals, has been found of great practical value, and obstetric experience forms a part of a nurse's training in the United States and Canada. Nevertheless, it will take some years after the Registration of Nurses' Act is in force before we begin to see the results from systematised training.

*Miss Wills.*—Read the Blue Books containing the evidence given before the Select Committee of the House of Commons upon the Registration of Nurses. They are obtainable from Wymans, Fetter Lane, E.C.

*Mrs. James.*—The cookery classes at Charing Cross Hospital, to which unattached nurses and members of the public are admitted, are now being formed. We should advise you to write immediately to the Matron, Miss Heather-Bigg, if you wish to avail yourself of the advantages offered by the hospital, as the numbers are limited.

All correspondence on the attack on the Matrons' Council and the Society for the State Registration of Nurses is held over.

## Notices.

### 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 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.

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