

dom, and a local Registration Council could be set up in Edinburgh which would answer the purpose. Decentralisation would be most injurious to Scottish and Irish nurses. England can do very well without us, but we cannot do without co-operation and unity. To arrange a lower standard of either training or examination would be fatal to our interests, and I hope it will not be permitted by Parliament.

I am, yours truly,
S. H. CALDERWOOD.

9, Argyll Mansions, Kensington, W.

THE SWEATING OF NURSE MATRONS IN COTTAGE HOSPITALS.

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

DEAR MADAM,—Your editorial of the 13th inst. touches on a very sore point. Acting as a Nurse Matron of a Cottage Hospital for five years quite ruined my health, and left me sadly dependent. I will give you a short report of my duties: Hospital, eight beds; staff, a Nurse-Matron, young cook (wages £16), scrubber by the day, and raw probationer (salary £10). Matron's duties: Help with nursing and be responsible night and day, usually for six patients; do housekeeping, supervise and help with cooking, attend committee meetings, keep all accounts, count and help keep in order linen, give out stores, prepare for operations, help carry helpless patients from door to ward, help carry helpless patients to operation, do sterilisation of all dressings, superintend cleaning of whole house, watch for hæmorrhage after operations, see and pacify all patients' friends, wash corpses, help to move them to mortuary, write all letters, run around with committee members, swallow their suggestions for increase of my duties and their snubs for work left undone, for which no human being had either time or strength; in fact, live a life of absolute slavery, until hope and health were both exhausted. Nothing you could write is too severe for the condition of things in many cottage hospitals. It is high time someone had power to inspect and report on the uncontrolled sweating of Nurse Matrons and the probationers employed in them. Why are hospitals the only places left to be managed by irresponsible and ignorant men, who, under a cloak of charity, work women like galley slaves? No man would submit to it for a day. They should be placed under some public authority, and the hours of work regulated.

Yours truly,

A SQUEEZED ORANGE.

[Why do women put up with it for a day—Poverty?—Ed.]

THE NURSING OF SICK CHILDREN.

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

DEAR MADAM,—I was very glad to read your leading article on the Nursing of Sick Children last week. I have worked in a hospital where the children were distributed through the general wards, and in another where there was a children's ward, and the benefit to both children and adults in the latter case was untold. I am strongly of

opinion that every hospital of any size should have its children's department.

I am, Dear Madam,
Yours faithfully,
A CHILD LOVER.

Comments and Replies.

Tired Pro.—The Nurses' Instep Support Shoe can be obtained from Mr. Thos. Stevenson, Oxford House, Oxford Street, W., which is over the Tottenham Court Road Tube Station.

Mrs. Evans.—The Metropolitan Asylums Board, Victoria Embankment, E.C., will send an ambulance for the removal of patients to the Board's hospitals. For the removal of private non-infectious cases the St. John Ambulance Association Invalid Transport Corps will send invalid omnibus or carriages at a fixed tariff for any distance (a) inside a two mile, and (b) inside a four mile radius of Charing Cross. Outside the four mile radius the terms are by arrangement.

N.V.—(1) "*The Science and Art of Nursing*" is complete in four volumes, costing 7s. 6d. each, or 30s. the set. It may be obtained from W. R. Howell and Co., 42, Theobald's Road, London, E.C. (2) We know of no cheaper and effective substitute for flannel.

NOTICE.

OFFICIAL ORGAN.

The *BRITISH JOURNAL OF NURSING* is the official organ of the following important Nursing societies: The Matrons' Council of Great Britain and Ireland.

The International Council of Nurses.

The National Council of Trained Nurses of Great Britain and Ireland.

The Society for the State Registration of Trained Nurses

The Registered Nurses' Society.

The School Nurses' League.

As their official organ is widely read by the members of these societies, the Editor will at all times be pleased to find space for items of news from the Secretaries and members.

Exclusive news being copyright, papers quoting from our columns must give the name of this journal as the source of their information.

Notices.

THE SOCIETY FOR THE STATE REGISTRATION OF TRAINED NURSES.

An application form for those who wish to become members of the Society for the State Registration of Trained Nurses will be found on page iii. of cover. It will soon be too late to help on the important work of this Society. No habitual reader of this journal can, we feel sure, be content to stand aside and let others found the future Profession of Nursing. Now is the time to help.

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