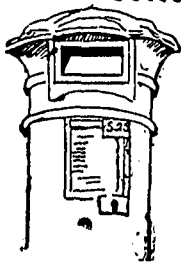


Letters to the Editor.



Whilst cordially inviting communications upon all subjects for these columns, we wish it to be distinctly understood that we do not IN ANY WAY hold ourselves responsible for the opinions expressed by our correspondents.

WORK IN KASHMIR.

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

DEAR MADAM,—It is about a year ago since I wrote to you about our building this little dispensary, and you kindly mentioned it in your Journal. We had funds sent in, and I got the floor on before the snow came. We have still the flooring, ceilings, doors, windows, plastering, painting, etc., to do. I still hope that the funds will come in soon to finish it. When this is quite finished I shall then try to collect funds to build just a little cottage for us ladies, as there is plenty of ground, and such a beautiful view of the mountains.

Believe me,

Yours very sincerely,

E. M. NEWMAN.

Zenana Mission, Ranawari,
Srinagar, Kashmir.

MARRIED MATRONS.

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

DEAR MADAM,—Miss Wortabet has brought a most interesting question on the *tapis* in her letter last week. Why not married Matrons? When I was a nurse at "Barts.," twenty years ago, the Superintendent of the Home married, and applied to be permitted to keep her post, I believe with the consent of the Matron. The Committee, of course, did not permit such an innovation. French people have quite different views to us on moral questions, I have heard a French doctor say that enforced celibacy for lay women is highly immoral, and I have heard an English Medical Superintendent say—himself enjoying every home comfort and the companionship of a charming wife and family—"Hospital Governors pay for the whole time of their women officers. Marriage is out of the question unless they resign." Why? Is it possible that, having but one life, hospital Matrons may someday claim the rights of other head officials? It is a most startling suggestion. I wonder if the natural and healthy state of holy matrimony would make Matrons, as a class, more liberal minded? There would be no anti-registrationist Matrons voting against the interests of the rank and file, under the humanising influences of a "home." Isolation and self-concentration have a very cramping effect upon some women's natures.

Yours truly,

COSMOPOLITAN.

A TERRIBLE INDICTMENT.

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

DEAR MADAM,—I have been waiting to see if any notice was taken of a statement made by a midwife at the recent Nursing and Midwifery Conference—namely, that the fees earned by midwives were so miserably low, and what practice they had was now in danger of being absorbed by hospitals, so that the actual alternative before good women seemed at times to be to become abortionists, or to die of starvation, and that possessing the knowledge they did the temptation was sometimes overwhelming. It is a terrible indictment, but the speaker spoke with conviction. Can nothing be done?

I am, dear Madam,

Yours faithfully,

CERTIFIED MIDWIFE.

Comments and Replies.

District Nurse.—Messrs. Bailey and Son, 38, Oxford Street, W., supply admirable bags for district nurses. Write and ask for list of prices.

Three Years' Certificate.—It is sometimes possible to obtain a free passage in return for services rendered, but this is not very easy, as invalids do not generally travel out to India, but home from there. Are you sure that you are a good sailor? It is no use undertaking nursing duties at sea unless you know you are not likely to be incapacitated.

NOTICE.

To District Nurses.—All enquiries concerning the District Nursing Exhibit at the International Nursing Exhibition at Caxton Hall, July 20th to 23rd, should be addressed to Miss C. C. du Sautoy, 16, Elm Grove, Taunton. The Secretary, Central Office, Queen Victoria's Jubilee Institute for Nurses, 58, Victoria Street, London, S.W., will also kindly help with the District Nurses' Exhibit.

Notices.

THE SOCIETY FOR THE STATE REGISTRATION OF TRAINED NURSES.

Those desirous of helping on the important movement of this Society to obtain an Act 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.

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. Six copies, post free, 7d., or one copy 1½d. It gives a brief review of the history of State Registration.

OUR PUZZLE COMPETITION.

Rules for competing for the Pictorial Puzzle Prize will be found on Advertisement page xii.

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