

L'Assistance Publique prépare des infirmières uniquement pour ses établissements.

Je vous prie de croire, chère Madame, à mes sentiments les meilleurs.

M. JACQUES.

Déléguée Fraternelle de l'Assistance Publique, Paris.

My impressions are of two kinds. I have first a feeling of deep gratitude to the English nurses for their most splendid reception and cordial hospitality. This Congress, the second one I attended, will be one of the bright spots to which one turns when life seems all too difficult.

In the second place the Congress has given us a fulness of new thoughts, which at this moment we can scarcely realise, but which are stored up for more quiet times, then to bear fruit. The many interesting papers read during these days have opened new horizons, and shown to us nurses in how many different ways we can exercise our beautiful and beloved profession. To me the most thrilling moment was when the resolutions on State Registration and Suffrage were put to the meeting. Both were carried, both are equally important, and are sorely needed if the condition under which we work is really to improve.

J. C. VAN LANSCHOT-HUBRECHT,
Secretary to the Dutch Nurses' Association.

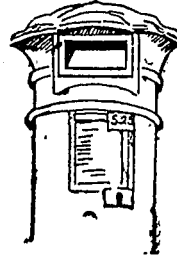
One of the impressions left upon me by the Congress is the evidence it has given of the wonderful way in which nurses of all nations are pressing forward to the same goal, namely, the raising of their profession, and the perfecting of its educational standard; methods may differ, but the end in view is the same.

It has been said of the modern nurse that she is the living link between all classes of the community. We can think of her now as the living link between all nations of the world, drawing them all together in closer bonds of sympathy.

To us in England who have outlived the great enthusiasm, and splendid self-devotion roused by Florence Nightingale, and who are perhaps inclined to be a trifle pessimistic, come these women with their splendid messages of hope and encouragement, with their enthusiasm and their vitality, and inspire us to fresh effort. We can join hands with our sisters across the seas. We are one with them, not isolated units, but part of a world-wide army whose mission it is to fight ignorance, disease, and misery wherever they are to be found. Never surely are the barriers of language more keenly felt than at a Congress of this sort! For to be reduced to silence when one is longing to learn from one's neighbour about her methods, her difficulties, her achievements, is indeed a trial. Perhaps one result of the Congress will be to spur us English-women on to the study of foreign languages.

G. A. ROGERS,
President, Leicester Infirmary Nurses' League.

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.

OUR GUINEA PRIZE.

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

DEAR MADAM,—I beg to acknowledge receipt of cheque for £1 ls., which I have been so fortunate as to win in connection with the "Monthly Puzzle Prize." I should like to add that the Journal is a weekly pleasure to me, being so very comprehensive, even without that interesting and instructive last page for one's few moments of recreation.

Yours truly,

E. B. CHARLTON.

5, Bolton Bridge Road, Ilkley.
9th August, 1909.

THE KNOWLEDGE OF MOTHERHOOD.

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

DEAR MADAM,—I am very glad to observe that Sir John Byers, in the address in obstetrics which he delivered at Belfast, laid stress on the duty of the care of the mothers of the nation. Those of us who are brought into close contact with the mothers of the poorer classes, expectant and actual, know well their uncomplaining courage and powers of endurance, but is it right that women who are with child should work hard, whether in their own homes or elsewhere, in vitiated atmospheres, on a diet mainly composed of bread and tea, which we know affords little of the necessary nutriment, and indeed often even that is limited in amount? Can we wonder that the new-born child is predisposed to rickets, or that its mother's milk does not nourish it; that it grows up puny and weakly, and that the mother is "dragged to pieces"? It is not only the mother and child who suffer. Our neglect as a community is being brought home to us as a community, by the deterioration of the national physique and the degeneration of the race. We cannot neglect our national responsibility without paying the penalty, nor is it righteous that we should.

I am, Dear Madam,

Yours faithfully,

DISTRICT NURSE.

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.

OUR PUZZLE COMPETITION.

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

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