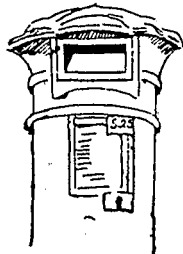


Letters to the Editor.



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.

THE INDIAN MILITARY NURSING SERVICE.

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

DEAR MADAM,—In reply to Miss D. M. Moore's letter in a recent issue, referring to candidates for Queen Alexandra's Imperial Military Nursing Service in India, it seems to me that your correspondent fails to understand how matters in civil hospitals in India actually stand.

I for one should never dream of recommending for the Queen Alexandra's Military Nursing Service in India a candidate possessing a "terrible accent, and all the manners of the Eurasian." There are, however, others; "educated, refined girls," gentlewomen educated in some instances in England, and quite fit to mix in that society of which Miss Moore writes, whom force of circumstances has brought out to the East. These ladies, notwithstanding the fact that they possess influence, their relatives holding good appointments in the Army, and that they themselves have been trained for three years in a good hospital, where diseases peculiar to the Tropics are nursed, are at present refused posts in the Q.A.M.N.S.I. simply because they do not happen to have received their training in England.

All of us who may have had anything to do with Army nursing, either at home or in India, know the great care that is necessary in England in the selection of suitable candidates. Surely this same caution could be used in the case of candidates trained in India.

I am, yours faithfully,

C. R. MILL,

Lady Superintendent, St. George's
Hospital, Bombay.

Late Sister, Army Nursing
Service.

THE EARLY TREATMENT OF MENTAL DISEASES
To the Editor of the "British Journal of Nursing."

DEAR MADAM,—I believe I must thank you for a copy of THE BRITISH JOURNAL OF NURSING, containing a reference to a paper read by me at the recent Annual Meeting of the Medico-Psychological Association at Leeds. There is, however, a slight misunderstanding in it. I was not a County Council Medical Officer while in East London itself, but acted in that capacity at an asylum which drew its patients from that area.

While in East London I was Acting Superintendent of the Canning Town Medical Mission in connection with the Canning Town Settlement, and thus had the opportunity of seeing at close quarters the people from whom the patients at the

asylum were recruited. This led me to appreciate the necessity for help and treatment earlier than was obtainable in the asylums.

The hospital with which the paper chiefly dealt is a small one in Brighton: "The Lewes Road Hospital for Women and Children," which is exceptional in admitting patients suffering from nervous breakdown amongst the poor.

It is much to be desired that before long it will cease to be exceptional, and that many similar institutions will be available for such necessary work.

Thanking you for giving attention to this important matter of early treatment in your valuable paper.

Believe me,

Yours faithfully,

A. HELEN BOYLE.

3, Palmeira Terrace, Hove, Brighton.

Comments and Replies.

Certificated Nurse.—The Nurses' Total Abstinence League is federated to the Women's Total Abstinence League, the President is the Hon. Mrs. Eliot Yorke, and the Hon. Secretary, Mrs. Herbert Rhodes, 30, Brechin Place, Kensington, W. Very pleasant meetings are from time to time held under its auspices.

Undecided.—We should advise you first to obtain three years' general training, and afterwards to take up one or more specialties. As you desire ultimately to take up private nursing you should aim at obtaining experience in infectious nursing and massage, and, if possible, in maternity nursing. As you are beginning your training at 21 you would be able to do all this and still begin private nursing at 26, so that you would have many years to look forward to.

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 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.

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.

OUR PUZZLE COMPETITION.

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

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