

THE HOME HOSPITAL SCOURGE.

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

DEAR MADAM,—If much undesirable gossip goes on in a Nursing Home, I should not blame the nurse, but the Superintendent, as she has the power to discourage any nurse from such dishonourable conduct. Make it a rule *not to listen* to gossip, and very little will you hear. I have had many nurses in my Home from the R. N. S. and elsewhere, and cannot recall one offender. A conscientious nurse realises that it is just as dishonourable to retail gossip from Home to Home as from patient to patient, and nurses who carry tales are quite capable of telling lies. I gratefully acknowledge the helpful work of many good, hard-working nurses who have nursed cases in my Home from time to time.

Yours sincerely,
ONCE A PRIVATE NURSE.

PRIVATE NURSES' PROBLEMS.

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

DEAR MADAM,—I often hear private nurses complain that they suffer from loss of sleep, and that either from the needs of the patient, inconsiderateness of the family, or noise, it is difficult to get sufficient rest to do their duty and maintain health in private families. Why, then, do so many private nurses, working on their own, or on "co-ops," when sleeping out, deliberately undermine their health, and in some cases unfit themselves for duty, by "gadding" when on night duty, going out for "long days," to afternoon functions, etc., when they should be resting in bed, and by ample sleep preparing themselves for the physical strain of night duty? They must sleep sometime, and I have known them sleep on duty.

Yours truly,
HOME SISTER.

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

DEAR MADAM,—In your issue of September 25th "Superintendent" says it might be helpful to discuss private nurses' problems. I, for one, would like to discuss the food question. One cannot work without food, and living in a patient's room most of one's time makes one fastidious. When food is not well cooked, and is of doubtful quality, my appetite vanishes. I would like to know what other nurses do. In London, of course, it is easy to have a square meal during off-duty time, but in many places that is impossible. I have not yet made a satisfactory meal off chocolates and biscuits. Will some other hungry nurse tell me the best food to buy—it must be cheap, dainty, nourishing, require no cooking, and keep well. Replies are anxiously awaited by

Yours sincerely,
A HUNGRY NURSE.

Comments and Replies.

Certificated Nurse.—Applications for admission to the Colonial Nursing Service should be made to the Hon. Secretary, Imperial Institute, S.W. It is practically necessary for all accepted candidates

to possess the certificate of the Central Midwives' Board, as most of the nurses connected with the Service have to undertake midwifery nursing.

A Qualified Masseuse.—The rule that men should be massaged by masseurs, and the work of masseuses limited to women patients, is a good one, framed for the benefit of masseuses, and it should be so regarded by them.

Midwife.—The powder you mean is probably Emol-keleet, which is becoming very popular with midwives and maternity nurses. It is supplied by Fassett and Johnson, 31-32, Snow Hill, E.C., who will send you a sample if you write mentioning this journal.

Nurse S.—You should report the conditions you mention to your Matron in the first instance. You probably need medical advice as to the desirability of wearing some kind of foot support.

Notices.

The BRITISH JOURNAL OF NURSING is the official organ of the following important Nursing societies:

The International Council of Nurses.

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

The Matrons' Council 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.

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.

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.

Such communications must be duly authenticated with name and address, and should be addressed to the Editor, 20, Upper Wimpole Street, London, W.

OUR PUZZLE COMPETITION.

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

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