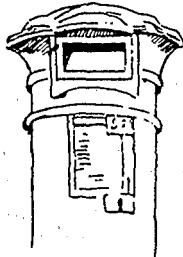


Letters to the Editor.



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 am in receipt of cheque, £1 ls., Puzzle Prize for December, 1909.

Thanking you very much for the same, I remain,

Yours faithfully,

H. H. REEVE.

Park Hospital, Lewisham, S.E.

A STRAW SHOWS THE WAY.

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

MADAM,—The stupid and interested policy which inspires party government was aptly illustrated last week at a meeting I was addressing. We were discussing the German scare, and one woman got up and asked: "Will the German Emperor make our lazy men sit up? Will he drill them and make them work? If so, let him come!" And a nurse who was present asked, no doubt in semi-seriousness: "Do you think he will give British nurses legal status as he has German nurses? If so, let him come!" A straw shows how the wind blows, and the continued contempt with which both parties in England treat women and their demands is arousing a sense of bitter resentment amongst them which is almost impossible to estimate. I thought these questions might interest your readers.

Yours sincerely,

A TRUE PATRIOT.

A BROKEN CONTRACT.

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

MADAM,—I read with interest your note in last week's issue headed "A Broken Contract." What is to be done to inspire women with a knowledge of business and due and honourable regard for a contract? The complaint and action of the Isle of Thanet Guardians have my sincere sympathy, and I hope they will win their case, and thus establish a precedent. Once a nurse has accepted an appointment it is her duty to undertake the work at least on trial. There are many other breaches of contract which nurses commit—they require some discipline in this connection.

A SUPERINTENDENT NURSE.

THE UNION OF BRITISH MIDWIVES.

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

DEAR MADAM,—I think a National Union of Midwives is greatly needed. Here in Manchester we find our local Association most beneficial. The linking together of local associations in a national whole

is what is required. The Midwives' Institute has in the past been simply metropolitan, and must remain so in many ways, as we are very busy people, not well paid, and cannot attend meetings beyond our own areas. The question of the most importance to midwives is that of having direct representatives on the Central Midwives' Board, especially as the Chairman is reported to have said, when discussing the granting of further facilities to midwives who failed to apply for enrolment before 1905, "that he was not there to consider the question from the point of view of relief to the midwives—he was sorry for them—but what the Board had to consider was whether the recognition of some midwives who would otherwise be debarred from practising in 1910 would not be a relief to lying-in women."

Surely our governing body has some responsibility towards us, as well as to our patients, otherwise its attitude is unjust and penalising.

Yours,

A MANCHESTER MIDWIFE.

Next week we shall have pleasure in publishing a letter from Lord Inverclyde on the Registration Controversy in Scotland.

Comments and Replies.

An Irish Trained Nurse.—All the larger hospitals in Paris are under the control of the "Assistance Publique." A nursing school and college has been established by this Board in connection with the Salpêtrière Hospital, but we believe all the pupils are of French nationality.

Notices.

RULES FOR PRIZE COMPETITIONS.

PRACTICAL POINTS.

We offer a Prize of 5s. for the best Practical Point paragraph of from 100 to 200 words, to reach the Editor, at 20 Upper Wimpole Street, London, W., not later than Saturday, January 15th inst.

Paragraphs sent in, other than that to which the prize is awarded, and thought worthy of publication, will be paid for at the usual rates.

THE NEATEST NURSE PHOTOGRAPH.

We offer 10s. for a photograph of a nurse in uniform, neatness to be the test of excellence, with permission to publish the same. The photographs must reach the Editor not later than Saturday, January 22nd. Photographs sent which do not win the prize will be returned.

AN ARTICLE ON A PRACTICAL NURSING SUBJECT.

We offer £1 10s. for an article dealing with Practical Nursing of from 1,400 to 1,500 words, to reach the Editor not later than Saturday, January 29th. By arrangement with competitors articles other than that to which the Prize is awarded may be selected for publication.

Each competitor must enclose her name and address in full.

OUR PUZZLE PRIZE.

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

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