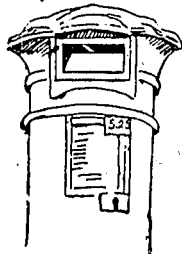


**Letters to the Editor.**



*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.*

**SYMBOLICAL EXPRESSION.**

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

DEAR MADAM,—I am sorry that the facts concerning the approaching Nursing Pageant should have been so distorted in some quarters as to give an entirely wrong impression regarding its scope and tendency. The Church Pageant, which proved a great success, and a great stimulus to interest in matters connected with the Church of England, was, unless my memory misleads me, attacked in the same manner.

The practice of presenting serious, moral, and even religious subjects through symbolical pageants is very, very old, and certainly does not mean that they are approached in a flippant spirit. None who saw the drama of life, death, sin, and virtue represented in "Everyman," but must appreciate the value of the symbolical expression of emotion and of conduct that appeals so strongly to some natures.

As the one responsible for the words, I can unhesitatingly say that, however unworthy they may be, there is not one sentence that could offend the most sensitive feelings.

I feel convinced that the attempt to present pictorially a movement of such moment in the Nursing World will be both successful and interesting. Anything to get away from mere wordy warfare; with Madame Neckar one is inclined to say:

"Sick am I of idle words, past all reconciling,  
Words that weary and perplex, and pander and conceal."

I welcome the return to a simpler mode of expression, drawn from a simpler age, that with a truer artistic feeling than ours worked in any medium that most easily and most clearly expressed the emotion that produced the desired effect and taught the needed lesson.

Wishing the Pageant every success,  
I remain,

Yours faithfully,

M. MOLLETT.

Royal South Hants and Southampton Hospital.

[The fact that the Nursing Pageant is being organised by the National Council of Trained Nurses is sufficient guarantee of its ethical standard.—Ed.]

**OUR FAVOURITE NOVEL PRIZE.**

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

DEAR MADAM,—It was a great surprise to me to receive the cheque to-night for 5s.—thank you for sending it to me. Though I know "The Dop

Doctor" is a great favourite, I hardly hoped my letter would be the lucky first.

Yours very sincerely,

A. GERTRUDE LAYTON.

**THE PUBLIC ESTIMATION OF NURSING.**

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

DEAR MADAM,—Another example of the public estimate of nursing. I had a brass plate cut and prepared. Before affixing it I went to the Duke of Westminster's agents (The Cubitt Estate Trustees) to ask the formal permission. It was blankly refused. I asked, "Why, then, would you allow a doctor's brass plate up?" The agent, typical of his class, answered patronisingly, "Oh! that is a profession, but we can't allow advertisements!" If the public regard us in that light they certainly deserve to do without us in times of sickness. But this sort of thing will go on till nursing takes its proper place as a registered profession. May your efforts in support of registration succeed soon.

Yours, etc.,

GLADYS TATHAM.

**A RASH REMARK.**

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

DEAR MADAM,—I was very glad to see attention drawn in the Journal to the practice which I fear is very prevalent of speaking before patients of their condition, and of other things also, as if they were stone deaf. I think nurses cannot be too careful what they say before their patients, and I always try to impress this upon any who work in the ward in which I am Sister. I have seen serious harm result from thoughtless remarks made before patients.

May I be allowed to thank you, as a subscriber for many years to the BRITISH JOURNAL OF NURSING for its professional tone, and for the high standard of ethics and conduct always advocated in its columns. It is a weekly pleasure to me, besides which it keeps me up-to-date in practical nursing matters. I greatly appreciate some of the lectures which appear in its columns, and generally pass them on to the nurses in the ward who find them a great help.

I am, dear Madam,

Yours faithfully,

HOSPITAL SISTER.

**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 PRIZE COMPETITION.**

Rules for competing for our Prize Competition will be found on page xii.

The remaining competitions for January are:—  
January 21st.—"Describe the Happiest Hour of Your Life."

January 23rd.—"Describe a Baby's Cries and what they indicate."

In each case the answer of the competitor should be from 300 to 500 words in length.

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