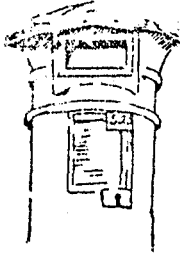


Letters to the Editor.



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 PRIZE COMPETITION.

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

DEAR MADAM,—Many thanks for cheque received, value 5s., for competition prize.

Yours sincerely,

EMILY MARSHALL.

123, New Bond Street, London, W.

THE CHURCH OF ENGLAND MISSION TO HOP-PICKERS.

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

MADAM,—May I, by your kindness, again bring to the notice of your many readers, the spiritual, medical, and social work which the Church of England Mission to Hop-pickers seeks to do for the 35th year in succession among some sixty thousand immigrants to Kent in the approaching season.

For this multitude we endeavour to provide temporary hospitals and dispensaries where accidents and the sick, especially children, are ministered to, marquees and tents in which lantern services and Sunday schools are conducted, and sing songs arranged in which the pickers largely supply the entertainment. Tea and coffee stalls and barrows are also provided, and our living agents for these various works numbered nearly 150 last year. Many of those who aid us, clergy, evangelists, undergraduates from the Universities and College Missions, trained nurses, and lady workers, accept only their board and lodging and some not that.

The working cost of the Mission is as low as possible, for its officers are honorary. The Archbishop of Canterbury is the President, and warmly commends it work, which is heartily welcomed by the hop-growers and pickers.

I therefore confidently appeal for contributions towards an expenditure of some £350, over and above a similar sum which is raised and expended parochially. I will also gratefully receive and distribute in the thirty parishes where our workers are engaged, bundles of cast linen for the use of the nurses, and any quantity of wholesome illustrated literature to be sent to me to Wateringbury Station, or by post.

I am, Madam,

Gratefully yours,

FRANCIS OLIPHANT,

Hon. Secretary.

Teston Rectory, Maidstone.

DETERIORATION OF NURSES' STATUS.

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

DEAR MADAM,—I note that medical men, chair-

men, and hospital governors, and several women's societies have had interviews with the Chancellor of the Exchequer about the National Insurance Bill, and as far as reported the interests of the nurses have not been brought forward in any way, excepting by one lady, who classed them with domestic servants and shop girls. It is not that I wish to disparage any class of woman worker, but that the circumstances of professional women who have to fulfil three or four years' probation (apprenticeship in fact) in an educational establishment (a nursing school) are not analogous to those of domestic workers or shop girls who are not compelled to undergo an educational curriculum. The position of nurses without legal status is deteriorating daily, and will continue to do so until our Registration Bill becomes law.

Yours truly,

EMILY S. MARTIN.

TO GUARD PROFESSIONAL INTERESTS.

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

DEAR MADAM,—As a member through the State Registration Society of the National Council of Nurses, I am very pleased to note in last week's BRITISH JOURNAL OF NURSING that a Standing Committee is to be formed to guard professional interests. We have long felt the want of a Nurses' Protection Society—medical practitioners have one—and how much more helpless are nurses. Laws are constantly made touching our personal life in the community. See what injury the General Purposes Bill, L.C.C. 1910, did to private nurses before we knew it. It is high time nurses—the most apathetic class of workers—awoke to a sense of self-preservation, if not of public duty.

Yours truly,

"SISTER MARY."

LOSS OF TREASURY GRANT.

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

DEAR MADAM,—Sincere thanks to the Emergency Committee which has been holding a watching brief for the nurses. I note in to-day's paper that in reply to Mr. Holland's questions when Mr. Lloyd George received a deputation of several hospital associations yesterday (Tuesday, 25th July), that he proposes to relieve hospital committees of 2d. weekly on each employee, if they contract to pay salaries, and take care of the nurses when sick. I feel sure this would be a mistake—much better leave nurses to be insured on the same terms as other living-in working women, otherwise if they have to leave the service of the hospital, they will find themselves deprived of two-thirds of the Treasury grant, and we shall never know where we are.

Yours truly,

L. S. D.

NOTICE.

Full information as to the movement for the State Registration of Trained Nurses can be obtained from the Hon. Secretary of the Society for the State Registration of Trained Nurses, 431, Oxford Street, London, W.

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