

## 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,—It was with great pleasure that I received the cheque for 5s. this morning. I have been a subscriber to the JOURNAL for eight years and should miss it more than any other paper to which I subscribe. With best wishes for its continued success.

I am, dear Madam,

Yours sincerely,

T. WILLIAMS, A.R.Sa.I.

4, Midland Road, Gloucester.

## A COMPLIMENT.

To the Editor of THE BRITISH JOURNAL OF NURSING.

DEAR MADAM,—I do not know who reports the proceedings of the Central Midwives Board for your Journal, but I do know that in no other paper are such admirable reports presented. They are invaluable, and I beg to thank you for them.

Yours faithfully,

A MANCHESTER MIDWIFE.

[We think this compliment well deserved by the talented lady, who is, of course, both a certificated nurse and certified midwife, who reports these meetings. This is not the first letter of appreciation we have received.—ED.]

## A NOVEL WEDDING PRESENT.

To the Editor of THE BRITISH JOURNAL OF NURSING.

DEAR MADAM,—As you know, there are never many pennies in nurses' pockets, and yet gifts sometimes they must give. I had to send a wedding present whilst with a recent case, and dashed out to buy it. In a hurry, I bought a good hot-water bag, and had it sent off. My friends really were pleased with it, and thought it a capital idea for those starting house-keeping. My patient was amused at first, and then said she thought it a nice, novel gift, and one the general public would not think of; so she made a note of it for her own use, and I gave her the addresses of the Surgical Supply Firms which advertise in the *B.J.N.* Half-a-dozen good rubber bags to start house-keeping in the winter would be much more useful than silver teaspoons. If this letter can appear it may spread the idea amongst other nurses' patients.

Yours truly,

MEMBER R.N.S.

## REPLIES TO CORRESPONDENTS.

*Sister M. P., London.*—Buy *Materia Medica* for Nurses, L. L. Dock, Putnam's Sons, 24, Bedford Street, London, W.C.

"*District Nursing.*"—We consider that the Queen's Nurses are doing invaluable work, and the more thoroughly educated professionally and sociologically they are, the better. They are a band of practical Health Missioners, and it is to be regretted that more encouragement is not given to nurses in training to give some years to this branch of work. The reason given for employing the partially trained and often uneducated women as ply of qualified nurses offering for the work. We think great efforts ought to be made to raise the salaries of Queen's Nurses. £40 should be the minimum, and £50 after three years' work. The cost of living in every direction rises yearly, and refined women who have to earn their living can no longer afford to accept £30 or £35 per annum. Bush nurses in Australia are to be paid equal salaries with those doing private duty. This is just all round.

*Miss K. F.*—There is an opportunity just now to gain experience in Fever Nursing, without which no private nurse can be considered *thoroughly* qualified—see Supplement in last week's issue, page vi.—Sisters, staff nurses, assistant nurses class 1, probationers, assistant nurses class 2, and nursing attendants are all required. Write to the Matrons whose names and addresses are given.

*Miss J. F. Proctor.*—We do not know of any hospital in Rome taking English probationers, but there are schools now where Italian probationers are trained. Write to Miss Turton, Scuolo Convitto, Regina Elena, Policlinico, Rome. Miss Turton is acquainted with the modern nursing movement in Italy, and could give you valuable information.

## NOTICES.

## OUT-PATIENT MASKS.

The Editor has only two of Miss Hutchinson's pattern masks left, and will be pleased to forward them to any nurse sending address and penny stamp. We have had several more letters informing us that masks are now used, where patients were formerly sent home after operations without them. One Matron writes: "We are muzzling rigorously, and find Miss Hutchinson's mask most practical."

## OUR PRIZE COMPETITIONS FOR NOVEMBER.

*November 11th.*—What are the common non-alcoholic beverages, and how are they best made?

*November 18th.*—What are the symptoms of abortion?

*November 25th.*—Mention some talents, and how she should use them, that a nurse must cultivate if she wishes to be successful as a Sister of Wards.

A few good questions for the Prize Competitions have been suggested by readers. The Editor will be pleased to receive others, if special interest is felt in any particular subject.

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