

the Matron's duty. What is evidently required at the institution alluded to is stricter nursing supervision, and this, we hope, will be recognised in the future." We have nothing to add. In any hospital where convalescent patients are found to be verminous—there, we repeat, the nursing is faulty. Matron, Sister, Staff Nurse, Probationer—each responsible in her degree, must realise that where a filthy personal condition of the patients exists—from the highest to the lowest—stricter supervision is imperative. Let it be exercised by all in authority at the institution in question.—ED.]

### THE COLOGNE CONGRESS.

To the Editor of THE BRITISH JOURNAL OF NURSING.

DEAR MADAM,—I too am in the anomalous position of A. C. F. I cannot belong to a League because although I was trained at a very large hospital one has never been started—and I dare not belong to the Society for State Registration because our Matron and Committee do not approve of it. How, then, am I to get recognised at Cologne—as naturally if I go I want to attend all the social functions? It does seem so unfair that we nurses in England seem to be the only ones who have no freedom of action—in every other country in the world, even China and Japan, they are not such serfs as we are. When the splendid International Congress was held in London in 1909 we were not permitted to take any part in it—and unless one risks one's livelihood one has just to grin and bear it.

Yours truly,

ONE WHO LOVES UNITY.

[It is only those who have sufficient courage to risk loss of work, for what is right, who ever are free to do their duty. Personally, we have little sympathy with those who consider their immediate self-interest before everything. The exploitation of nurses, and the tyranny of the unethical unprofessional nursing press is the worst evil in our profession in this country. Merely commercial speculations, these spurious so-called nursing journals oppose insidiously, or discourage, every self-respecting attempt upon the part of trained nurses to co-operate for self-protection and solidarity, because it is to their own commercial interest to do so. Nurses have got to learn that without professional solidarity they can never realise their own professional assets—and they will remain a huge mass of disorganised labour for the profit of the canny business man. Here the medical profession teach us a very salutary lesson. We need more of their professional loyalty.—ED.]

### MEN'S SOCIETY FOR WOMEN'S RIGHTS.

To the Editor of THE BRITISH JOURNAL OF NURSING.

DEAR MADAM,—I write on behalf of the above society to draw the attention of yourself and your readers to the astounding fact that in Holloway Gaol—built, I believe, to accommodate 800

prisoners—there is no dental chair or appliances, and further, that no arrangements exist for the attendance of a dentist. (It has recently taken a prisoner *three weeks* to obtain the services of a dentist!) Also, we have reason to believe that there is no staff of thoroughly trained nurses for duty in the infirmary. The Men's Society for Women's Rights will be only too glad to help in establishing the truth of the above statements with a view to securing immediate redress.

Yours faithfully,

FRANK WITTY,

Hon. Propaganda Secretary.

141, St. Stephen's House,  
Westminster, S.W.

### [REPLIES TO CORRESPONDENTS.

*Nurse J. M. H., Yorkshire.*—We do not think it is possible to procure such a book as you mention. Write to the Matron of the Brisbane Hospital asking for the regulations for probationers.

*Trained Nurse, Bournemouth.*—The address of the Clapham Maternity Hospital and School of Midwifery is Jeffreys Road, Clapham, S.W. It has an excellent reputation as a Training School for midwives.

### OUR PRIZE COMPETITIONS FOR FEBRUARY.

*February 3rd.*—What are the principal points to be borne in mind when isolating a patient in a private house?

*February 10th.*—What do you mean by obstructed labour, how would you recognise it, what may cause it, and how would you deal with such cases?

*February 17th.*—Enumerate the principal reasons for the decrease in infant mortality in recent years. How can trained nurses and midwives assist in securing a continual decrease?

*February 24th.*—Mention any methods with which you are acquainted for making doses of disagreeable drugs as palatable as possible.

### PRIZES FOR NURSING HANDICRAFT

(See page ii. of Cover).

### NOTICES.

#### STATE REGISTRATION OF TRAINED NURSES.

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

#### NEW SUBSCRIBERS.

The Editor hopes that every reader, who values THE BRITISH JOURNAL OF NURSING, will get one or more new subscribers—so that its constructive work for the profession may receive ever increasing support.

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