

## 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.*

## NURSING HOMES.

To the Editor of THE BRITISH JOURNAL OF NURSING.

DEAR MADAM,—I fully appreciate Miss Stower's desire for organization amongst proprietors of nursing homes, on the lines of self protection, by admitting only to the proposed association homes of good standing, and maintaining definite standards for their nurses. But how are we to arrive at these standards? We will, of course, eliminate the probationer. She has no place in a Home where patients pay high fees on the assumption that they are receiving *skilled* nursing, and further, the limited experience obtainable in a nursing home of a few beds does not qualify it to be a training school.

I consider that the standard of our Colonies where registration is in force is the only one which is satisfactory in relation to the registration of nursing homes, *i.e.*, that the proprietor and her staff are all trained nurses enrolled on the state register. Nothing else is really much use. Moral: Work to secure a Nurses Registration Act without delay.

Yours faithfully,  
LOGIC.

## HORSES AND THE HEAT.

To the Editor of THE BRITISH JOURNAL OF NURSING.

MADAM,—With the advent of the hottest months of the year, will you allow me to make a practical suggestion with regard to "summering" horses? There seems to be an established idea that horses can be turned out for the summer, and that providing they have sufficient grass and water, they require nothing else. My belief is different, and my practice is this: During the heat of the day, and so long as the flies are troublesome, I bring my horses in at 9 a.m. and keep them stabled till 6 p.m., turning them out again for the night. They have only one small feed at mid-day, and yet they keep in capital condition and are ready for work when required.

It is certainly unwise to leave horses and live-stock out in the full heat and sunshine, as the irritation caused by the flies keeps them constantly on the move, and the force exerted by constant kicking, biting, stamping and stampeding is very considerable indeed, and is just so much waste of strength which ought to be avoided. I know of a case where a cart mare was turned out for the whole of last summer in some twenty acres of meadowland, on the level coast near Chichester, which Sir Rider Haggard says is the richest pasture in the Kingdom. This mare might have been expected to improve under these conditions, but by the autumn was absolutely nothing but

skin and bone, for which state (it was admitted by the owner) the flies had been responsible.

I am, yours faithfully,  
W. J. C. NORRIS.

Thukeham, Pulborough.

[We are always pleased to call the attention of our readers to methods of helping the dear animals.—ED.]

## REPLIES TO CORRESPONDENTS.

*Enquirer (Sheffield).*—The Sanatorium Benefit under the National Insurance Act begins at once. The Medical Benefit in January, 1913. You have no option as an employed person as to insuring, if you are engaged at a rate of remuneration not exceeding in value £160 per annum. If you have a private income, not dependent on your earnings, of £26 per annum, you are not bound to insure, but your employer must still pay his or her 3d. weekly, in which case it benefits the State only. You should, therefore, consider whether you will become a voluntary contributor and obtain the benefit.

*Midwife (Liverpool).*—It is desirable to give infants some cool water each day in addition to their mother's milk. This is specially important in hot weather.

## OUR PRIZE COMPETITIONS FOR AUGUST.

*August 17th.*—Mention some of the emergencies you have met with in the course of your nursing career and your methods of dealing with them.

*August 24th.*—How would you deal with severe post partum hæmorrhage in the absence of medical assistance?

*August 31st.*—Describe the preparation of a patient for receiving an anæsthetic. What precautions would you take before and after?

## NOTICES.

A Subscription Form for THE BRITISH JOURNAL OF NURSING will be found on page xii. of our advertisement columns. The JOURNAL is the official organ in Great Britain and Ireland of the International Council of Nurses, and full reports of the Cologne meetings will be published in it.

The price is 1d. weekly. Abroad, 9s. per year, post free. Office, 431, Oxford Street, London, W.

## ADDRESS NEEDED.

A money order for 9s. from India, but without further information, was received at THE BRITISH JOURNAL OF NURSING Office on May 13th, 1912. The Post Office cannot trace it, so we shall be obliged if the sender—who, presumably, is not receiving the JOURNAL—will communicate with the Manager, THE BRITISH JOURNAL OF NURSING, 431, Oxford Street, London, W., England.

## OUR PRIZE COMPETITIONS.

Owing to the absence of the Editor and Assistant Editor at the Cologne Congress, the award of the Prize Competition Prize is postponed till next week.

[previous page](#)

[next page](#)