

**CO-OPERATION OF TRAINED NURSES.**

To the Editor of THE BRITISH JOURNAL OF NURSING.

DEAR MADAM,—In your magazine of January 25th a paragraph under "Nursing Echoes" runs thus: "The Glasgow and West of Scotland Co-operation of Trained Nurses in its Annual Report notifies that for the future nurses joining will pay 10 per cent. for their first two years, at the end of two years 7½ per cent."

So far this is correct. Our arrangement *re* percentage has been since April 1908. The first two years the nurse pays 10 per cent. At the end of two years 7½ per cent. until she has worked in the Society for seven years. At the end of seven years the percentage is reduced again to 5 per cent. We have about seventy nurses, who are paying only 5 per cent., and this number being constantly added to.

I am, truly yours,

H. M. ROUGH,  
*Lady Superintendent.*

Co-operation of Trained Nurses,  
16-18, Sardinia Terrace, Glasgow, W.

**WRONGLY ACCUSED.**

To the Editor of THE BRITISH JOURNAL OF NURSING.

DEAR MADAM,—I wish to thank you very much indeed for sending me copies of your paper and for your sympathy and interest in my case in the Court of Session.

Yours most sincerely,

L. B. COUPER.  
*Matron.*

Clackmannan Combination  
Infectious Diseases Hospital, Alloa.

[We hope Miss Couper will not permit the unjustifiable accusations of which she has been found entirely guiltless to cause her further suffering and unhappiness. We feel sure she has the warm sympathy of her colleagues for not tamely submitting to wrong without protest.—ED.]

**DOCTORS' FEES IN MIDWIVES' CASES.**

To the Editor of THE BRITISH JOURNAL OF NURSING.

DEAR MADAM,—Clause 18 of the National Insurance Act gives a doctor—when called in by a midwife in certain cases—the legal right to recover his fee from the Society which is responsible for payment of the maternity benefit. A good deal of discussion has centred round the point as to how societies can meet this liability without holding back part of the maternity benefit.

One suggestion made is that the midwife should charge an extra shilling on her usual fee to all insured patients and hand this extra money to the societies for a guarantee fund for payment of doctors' fees.

The National Association of Midwives wish it to be known that they entirely disapprove of such

a proposal. If acted on the effect of the proposal would be to make the maternity benefit 29s. instead of 30s. Societies and local committees would have credit for paying the full 30s., whilst the midwife would be the instrument for getting a shilling of it back again. To thus turn the midwife into a collector of fees (for other than her own services) would lower the whole standard and dignity of the midwifery profession.

I am, faithfully yours,

MARGARET LAWSON,  
*President National Association of Midwives.*

9, Albert Square,  
Manchester.

**REPLIES TO CORRESPONDENTS.**

*Mrs. Burgess, Croydon.*—It is necessary to instruct the present race of fathers and mothers in the care of infants, and their eagerness to learn is often pathetic. But instruction in this and kindred matters should begin long before parenthood, and we hope that a future generation will have the opportunity of instruction in the essential duties of parenthood before they assume its responsibilities. For the present, Schools for Mothers fill a necessary gap.

*Maternity Nurse, Crewe.*—We are often asked how long a nurse should abstain from attending a maternity case after she has been in attendance on a case of septic infection in a lying-in woman. The rule laid down by the Central Midwives Board is the right one in such cases, *i.e.* for so long as it takes her to thoroughly disinfect herself and her belongings, usually about twenty-four hours. If she is thoroughly disinfected she is safe, and if she is not no lengthy period of abstention from attending on cases will make her so.

**OUR PRIZE COMPETITIONS.**

*February 15th.*—Describe the daily and general care you would give to the mouth and hair of a helpless patient.

*February 22nd.*—How might a case of scarlatinal nephritis be recognized, and how should such a case be nursed?

**NOTICES.**

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. Address of Office, 431, Oxford Street, London, W.

**BUSINESS COMMUNICATIONS.**

The Editor will be obliged if all business communications, such as requiring extra journals, &c., are addressed to the Manager, THE BRITISH JOURNAL OF NURSING Office, 431, Oxford Street, London, W., and not to the Editorial office at 20, Upper Wimpole Street, W.

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