

## 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.*

## PROFESSIONAL REPRESENTATION ON KING EDWARD VII ORDER OF NURSES.

To the Editor of THE BRITISH JOURNAL OF NURSING.

DEAR EDITOR,—I wish to thank Miss Jane Child for her friendly letter. It was a thousand pities that Her Excellency, Lady Gladstone's reporters left out her thanks to the Matrons, &c., who helped draw up the rules for the above Order.

The Press omission is only another instance of their completely ignoring the work of some of the best women in the world, our trained nurses. Even as we are, I give place to the members of no other profession in conscientious performance of duty, sympathy with their employer's sufferings and needs, and general high sense of duty and consistency of life. Yet we are usually ignored by the Press.

Then again, "the Matrons of S.A. Hospitals are very hard-worked people." I am sure they are if they in any way try to come up to their ideals and bring the work of their hospitals along with them. But what about the organization of the nurses in the vast continent of India, undertaken by a few of the very busiest women in the nursing world there? We always say, "It is the busy Matrons who give the help most needed; they never fail if applied to."

Again, I am acknowledged right in stating that there is no professional nurse on the Committee.

May a representation be made to Her Excellency that this representative be arranged as soon as possible?

Wishing Miss Child the best of success in her efforts for organization and registration, and all other things that are for the welfare of our profession,

I am, yours sincerely,  
S. GRACE TINDALL,  
President, T.N.A., India.

## NATIONAL COUNCIL OF TRAINED NURSES AND PUBLIC DUTY.

To the Editor of THE BRITISH JOURNAL OF NURSING.

DEAR MADAM,—I am pleased to see that in November the N.C.T.N. is going to meet in consultation—in Africa we call this process a pow-pow. I want to urge that we discuss and take some action on the venereal disease question. The initiative taken by our Council four years ago has done great good in a quiet way; but do not let us be lulled to inaction by the promise by the Premier of a Commission of Enquiry. We want to educate every nurse and every woman we know in the facts of the case—

so that as a profession we shall be well instructed and well equipped to take our part in helping to prevent the ravages of venereal disease, and to rescue our ignorant fellow creatures from lives of misery. One of my nearest friends, thought a few years ago to have made a happy marriage, is now watching her husband die horribly—a mental and physical wreck; nothing can save him. Such a grief stricken household! Such misery can and should be prevented; trained nurses must do their public duty in this connection. How best to do it, is what we want to know.

Yours truly,

MEMBER N.C.T.N.

[We quite agree with our correspondent that this question should receive further consideration by the National Council; we shall need all the public opinion possible brought to bear upon it before effective means for stamping it out will be adopted.—ED.]

## HOW TO NURSE COTTAGE HOSPITALS.

To the Editor of THE BRITISH JOURNAL OF NURSING.

DEAR MADAM,—Will any of your readers be good enough to advise how best to nurse a cottage hospital of twenty beds. Is it fair to call it a training school, and bind probationers for three years' service? Should it be nursed by certificated nurses—if so, who is going to do probationers' work? The Matron of a Cottage Hospital is, we know, expected to be matron, assistant matron, house-sister, house-keeper, accountant, domestic supervisor, theatre sister and engineer—for a salary of £35, *without* uniform; but how best to have the nursing done is a difficulty. Perhaps someone who has been generalissimo in such an institution will help me to solve this difficulty.

Yours truly,

COTTAGE HOSPITAL MATRON.

## REPLY TO CORRESPONDENT.

*Sister F.*—Try the "Christie" Female Urinal (Nurse Christie's Patent); it is finding great favour. It has many excellent points: (1) The lifting or turning of the patient is entirely obviated; (2) on account of its open shape it is easily cleaned; (3) the shape also allows the urine to be readily examined; (4) it is light and portable. Price, 3s. 6d. The sole makers are the Hospitals and General Contracts Co., 25 to 35, Mortimer Street, London, W.

## OUR PRIZE COMPETITIONS.

*October 4th.*—What are the main points of difference between the rashes of small-pox and chicken-pox?

*October 11th.*—How is medicine introduced into the circulation?

*October 18th.*—Name some germs causing morbid processes in wounds. What are the local symptoms of wound infection?

*October 25th.*—Describe the Hygiene of Pregnancy for the benefit of mother and child?

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