

## 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.*

## A POPULAR SECTION.

To the Editor of THE BRITISH JOURNAL OF NURSING.

DEAR MADAM,—It was delightful to learn I had gained the prize this week; and I must confess to being proud of it, both on my own account and that of my training school.

I agree with Miss Hunter that the weekly essays are of great assistance. Even if there is not time to work them up oneself, it is a great help to read and compare other people's ideas and methods.

With many thanks,

I am,

Yours truly,

Royal Hants County Hospital, E. FENN.  
Winchester.

## COTTAGE HOMES FOR NURSES.

To the Editor of THE BRITISH JOURNAL OF NURSING.

DEAR MADAM,—I think the cottage idea for nurses past work is very good, especially if a central kitchen could be arranged which would supply dinners.

Most nurses can cook a little and would like to make dainty dishes for breakfast, lunch or supper, but to cook a dinner for one every day would be a weariness and extravagant. Also there should be as few rules as possible.

Yours sincerely,

MARY HARVEY, R.N.S.

## BOGUS MESSAGE HOMES.

To the Editor of THE BRITISH JOURNAL OF NURSING.

DEAR MADAM,—May we hope that last week's Editorial will arouse the Matrons of reputable Nursing Homes to take some conjoint action before it is too late, to bring to the notice of the London County Council the necessity to consult the nursing profession as to the best way to retain some prestige in their scheme for licensing Nursing Homes. So far this has apparently not been done, and the line taken by the Committee presumably at the instigation of the National Vigilance Association is not calculated to improve matters. The press have evidently got hold of the idea that the professed legislation is an attempt to "tackle an evil" in connection with bogus message homes and places of ill fame, and if reputable Nursing Homes are in any way classed with these places and interfered with by the police, it will be most unfair on the many well conducted Homes now filling a very useful function. All inspection

should be done by thoroughly qualified medical practitioners and trained nurses, not by the police.

Yours truly,

MATRON OF NURSING HOME.

London, W.

(We quite agree with our correspondent, and hope that some action may be taken at the forthcoming meeting of the National Council of Trained Nurses on the 27th inst.—Ed.)

## WHY TRAIN AS A NURSE?

To the Editor of THE BRITISH JOURNAL OF NURSING.

DEAR MADAM,—It appears to me from the reported qualifications of several school nurses elected in country places, that the only qualification *not* required is that of trained nursing. Recently I applied to an Education Authority for such a post, and had to fill in a schedule under the following headings:—

## Essential Qualifications.

1. Health Visitor's Certificate.
2. Central Midwives' Board Certificate.

## Preferential Qualifications.

1. Hospital Trained Nurse.
2. Lecturer, Infant Care and Hygiene.

## Additional Qualifications.

1. Fever Trained.
2. Children's Diseases.

You will observe that hospital training was not an "essential qualification," and that a knowledge of children's diseases was only counted as an "additional qualification."

As a matter of fact, the lady appointed was not a trained nurse, although qualified as an "inspector of nuisances." Let us hope the school children are not classed under this heading.

Joking apart, is it not time public money was expended with more common sense. A school nurse in my opinion should be a highly qualified trained nurse with practical experience in the nursing of children and infectious diseases. There is no reason for her to be a midwife—infants in arms do not go to school, nor an inspector of nuisances, as the supervision of the sanitary condition of schools should be the duty of medical and sanitary inspectors.

Yours truly,

A THOROUGHLY TRAINED NURSE.

## OUR PRIZE COMPETITIONS.

November 8th.—What are the duties of a nurse in preparation for, during, and after labour?

November 15th.—What are the special points to be observed when nursing a case of dipsomania?

November 22nd.—What are the causes of tetanus, and what is the nursing treatment?

November 29th.—Mention some of the chief preparations of opium with their usual doses. What are the symptoms of an overdose?

[previous page](#)

[next page](#)