

ing the proposals that every Superintendent of a Nursing Home in London has not been on the alert—but, as usual, no doubt they will attempt to shut the stable door when the steed is stolen. I hope sincerely the suggestions made by our National Council will commend themselves to the L.C.C. There is very great difficulty already in obtaining the services of the best type of nurse to work in Nursing Homes; and if they are in any way to be classed in the public mind with disorderly houses, it means that we shall not be able to carry on this useful branch of work at all. I, for one, would close down.

Yours sincerely,  
SUPERINTENDENT NURSING HOME.

[Professional inspection and registration by a special department under the London County Council, would, in our opinion, raise the status of Nursing Homes in the Metropolis; but unless it is to be thoroughly done, it had better be left alone. We hope Superintendents of Nursing Homes will study the General Powers Bill, in which the L.C.C. deal with the matter; and which is to be brought before Parliament next Session. We shall deal further with the question at an early date.—ED.]

#### JUST THE ENCOURAGEMENT WE NEED.

To the Editor of THE BRITISH JOURNAL OF NURSING.

DEAR MADAM,—The next issue will, I suppose, be the last for 1913. May I be permitted to thank you and your able staff for the inspiration I have found in every issue of THE BRITISH JOURNAL OF NURSING this year from start to finish, I am a lonely worker, and do not know how I could get on without it.

Yours very sincerely,  
Manchester. MARY JAMES.

#### PERFORMING ANIMALS.

To the Editor of THE BRITISH JOURNAL OF NURSING.

DEAR MADAM,—The manager of the London Opera House has stated publicly that that House was closed on account of the public feeling shown against the animal performances carried on there. The means which led to this result were mainly the dissemination of knowledge of the cruelty often employed in training animals, and also the circulation of forms issued by the Canine Defence League, 27, Regent Street, S.W., to be signed by members of the public, pledging themselves not to go to any performance in which dogs are used. Doubtless the closing of this House will make others more careful, and probably some of the worst "turns" will be withdrawn in other places in London, and we may regard it as a distinct score to the cause of animal protection. It is, however, only one step, and if we leave it at that, the condition of the animals will not really be much improved. They will probably be taken the round of the provincial towns—where the accommodation is often worse even than in London theatres—and my object in writing to

you is to ask our friends in provincial towns to draw the moral, and to do all in their power to show that the love of fair play for animals in the provinces is not in any way inferior to that in the capital.

London has shown the way. Will they not follow and help to drive this cruelty out of the country altogether?

Yours faithfully,  
ERNEST BELL.

[We commend this request to our readers. The best way to stop these pathetic performances is not to pay to see them. All weak creatures are exploited through human greed. No cash, no show—that is the logical conclusion.—ED.]

#### REPLIES TO CORRESPONDENTS.

Miss J., N. Wales.—There are various types of delirium: that of typhoid is low and muttering; hallucinations are often connected with alcoholism; patients suffering from delirium tremens, or toxic poisoning are often violent and restless, while those bordering on insanity may have various delusions. A nurse should bear in mind that delirium often comes on very suddenly.

#### OUR PRIZE COMPETITIONS.

January 3rd.—What points would you specially observe in nursing a case of heart disease, and what arrangements would you make for the comfort of the patient?

January 10th.—Describe briefly how food and water may act as carriers of infection. Give examples of diseases so produced.

January 17th.—Describe your management of the patient's breasts in an obstetrical case from the moment her child is born.

January 23rd.—Give a short description of the following diseases, with details of their general nursing and management (a) chorea, (b) acute meningitis.

January 30th.—What is a hydatid cyst? Mention the two commonest situations in which they are found, also the surgical emergencies which are likely to occur in connection with them.

#### NOTICES.

The Manager of THE BRITISH JOURNAL OF NURSING will be obliged if Miss J. I. Grant will notify her present address to the Office of the Journal, 431, Oxford Street, London, W.

#### OUR WEST END OFFICE.

Copies of THE BRITISH JOURNAL OF NURSING can always be procured at 69, Long Acre, W.C., and at 431, Oxford Street, London, W., price One Penny.

#### OUR ADVERTISERS.

We would remind our readers that they can help THE BRITISH JOURNAL OF NURSING by dealing as far as possible with advertisers in the paper, and getting their friends to do likewise. Only the most reliable firms are accepted by the management.

[previous page](#)

[next page](#)