

## 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.*

## NOBBLED.

To the Editor of THE BRITISH JOURNAL OF NURSING.

DEAR MADAM,—After reading Lord Knutsford's attack upon Dr. Chapple in the *Times* on March 5th, I have been looking out for a reply every day. So far none has appeared. Now we in the know feel sure that when a Member of the House of Lords tells a Member of the House of Commons (in no parliamentary phraseology) that he has said what is not true (and yet fails to prove his statement) that a reply must have been sent by the latter for publication to the paper in which the attack has been permitted. Is it presumable that a Member of Parliament has been treated with the same lack of courtesy and justice as has been the fate of "A Journalist Nurse" on former occasions so far as the *Times* is concerned?

Lord Knutsford states in his letter that at the present moment many Matrons are against State Registration, and he mentions the present Matron of St. Bartholomew's Hospital; this may be so, but he does not inform the public that this lady was trained at the London Hospital, and that the League of St. Bartholomew's Hospital Nurses, composed of 700 nurses trained and certificated at St. Bartholomew's Hospital, have on half-a-dozen occasions voted in meeting, in support of State Registration, and sent several Petitions to the Government in favour of it. It is a scandalous suppression of the real facts of the case so far as St. Bartholomew's Hospital nurses are concerned, to assume that an alien Matron's opinion is to override the conscientious convictions of 700 certificated women, many of them holding positions of responsibility as Matrons of Nurse-Training Schools. I for one beg you to permit me to enter my very earnest protest against both the "nobbiling" of the press and of "Barts."

I am,

Yours very truly,

ELLEN B. KINGSFORD

(Member League of St. Bartholomew's Hospital Nurses.)

## REPLIES TO CORRESPONDENTS.

*Lincoln.*—St. George's Hospital, Bombay, and the General Hospital, Madras, both, we believe, train for three years. The former hospital is largely for Europeans, and is often known as the European General. In the United States the Johns Hopkins Hospital, Baltimore, has deservedly a world-wide reputation for the excellence of its training. The hospital you mention is, we believe, a private one.

*Miss M. M. Tipper, Liverpool.*—We never charge for inserting news, and shall have pleasure

in inserting your paragraph next week. We regret it is crowded out of this issue.

*Miss Y. Bennett, London.*—Margate is frequently recommended for strumous children, because the air is especially beneficial to cases of this class. The Royal Sea Bathing Infirmary has a record of many years of useful work for such children.

*D. G., Edinburgh.*—Will D. G. send her name to the Editor. She wishes to communicate with her, and regrets her letter has been mislaid.

*Highwood.*—There is a very good prospect for School Nursing and Health Visiting in the future, as it is a branch which is very much developing. The centres at present, such as London and Glasgow, which have a large enough staff of School Nurses to appoint a Superintendent to supervise them, are limited in number. Those who desire to qualify for posts as School Nurses should obtain a three years' certificate from a good Nurse Training School, and the certificate of the Royal Sanitary Institute (90, Buckingham Palace Road, S.W.), the Royal Institute of Public Health (37, Russell Square, W.C.), or some similar body in Hygiene and School Nursing.

## OUR PRIZE COMPETITIONS.

*March 21st.*—What are the duties of a nurse in the care of an infant for twenty-four hours after birth?

*March 28th.*—What are the characteristics of the urine in (a) fevers, (b) acute Bright's disease, (c) diabetes mellitus, (d) diabetes insipidus, (e) cystitis.

## NOTICES.

As there has been a great run on our issue of March 7th containing the report of Dr. Chapple's speech in the House of Commons when moving the First Reading of the Nurses' Registration Bill, and the record of the historic vote in the Division, those who desire to obtain further copies should order them at once from the Manager, BRITISH JOURNAL OF NURSING Office, 431, Oxford Street, London, W.

We have not yet received the official report of the evidence given by the Hon. A. Brodrick at the Royal Commission on Venereal Disease, for which we know our readers are anxious, but will publish it in due course.

## NEW SUBSCRIBERS.

The Editor hopes that every reader who values THE BRITISH JOURNAL OF NURSING will encourage her friends to subscribe for it, so that its constructive work for the profession may receive ever increasing support. Don't forget that it is the only weekly journal edited by a trained nurse, and which supports (1) an efficient standard of Nursing Education, (2) State Registration of Nurses, and (3) Just Economic Conditions for Nurses. See subscription form, page xii.

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