

profession in this country were only organised, the matter of the cutting of fees, which might occur if natives were granted registration on a lower grade certificate, would soon be settled. I really think that the question of competition, &c., has been exaggerated, and that the output of a number of native nurses with a lower grade certificate (that number to be limited by the Government) would be of great benefit to the health of our native population.

I am trying to bring about the formation of a Trained Nurses' Association in this country, but I can see that it is going to be a very difficult matter. Apart from the huge distances to be travelled (which is not an insuperable difficulty), one has to contend with a very marked lethargy on the part of the members of the profession itself. Perhaps it is due to the fact that they are not brought into such intimate contact, but there does not seem to be that sympathy and personal interest between nurses in this country that there is at home. However, I hope that such an organisation does materialise, as it would be of great benefit to the Nursing Profession.

Yours faithfully,

J. TREMBLE, M.B.

Editor "South African Nursing Record."

A HOME WHICH MEETS A NEED.

To the Editor of THE BRITISH JOURNAL OF NURSING.

DEAR MADAM,—Having read with much interest in your valuable paper an article on Mannamead Nursing Home, if you have space in the next issue, I should like to add a few lines on behalf of a near relative who has been with Mrs. Knight and Miss Tapley Spurr, nineteen years next May; it is a very sad case the result of paralysis, and I think the fact that she keeps as well, and as happy as she possibly can be, is in itself sufficient testimony to the kind care and attention she receives. Personally I am very grateful to the principals, also to a nurse, who I know has been with them some years.

I am, Dear Madam,

Yours faithfully,

E. B. H.

[We publish this letter with pleasure. It is always an encouragement to those who devote their life and work to the sick to know that it is appreciated.—ED.]

THE DANGER TO NURSING HOMES.

To the Editor of THE BRITISH JOURNAL OF NURSING.

DEAR MADAM,—I should like to offer my sincere thanks to you and Mrs. Stabb for the prompt action taken upon our behalf on the London County Council Bill for Registering Nursing Homes. I suppose we Matrons of nursing homes have ourselves to blame for allowing our affairs to be arranged without consulting us, but we are very busy, and oftentimes overworked and worried women, with little time for public affairs. That, anyway, is my excuse for neglecting professional organisation. I think, however, the calm manner

in which certain Members of Parliament were prepared to class our Homes with disorderly houses, and that without even consulting us, should make us realise we cannot be self-supporting workers without the risk of interference, and that it is our duty to protect our own status in the future. I hope something will be done to make such an injury impossible henceforth.

Yours truly,

SUPERINTENDENT NURSING HOME.

[What ever is done should be done by Matrons of Homes in co-operation. Apathy is the deadly sin of professional women.—ED.]

THE DECREPIT HORSE TRAFFIC.

To the Editor of THE BRITISH JOURNAL OF NURSING.

MADAM,—May I once more remind your readers that a Bill to prevent the worst cruelties of the old horse traffic will come up for discussion in the House of Commons on April 5th, and I beg them to do all they can to influence their members to support the measure?

An eyewitness writes: "There are great sausage manufactories at Ghent, and no horse is too old or too thin for sausage making. Some that arrived were such scarecrows that I cannot think where in England they had been hidden. Several were freshly clipped. It was freezing hard. A bitter wind blew, and the ground was slippery with frozen snow. Slowly the stiff feeble old horses walked the short distance to the quarantine stable. One fell, but was got up again."

The present regulations have proved quite inadequate to purify this horrible traffic and our honour as a humane nation is at stake.

I remain, yours faithfully,

EDITOR, "THE ANIMALS' FRIEND."

Portugal Street, London.

[We appeal to every reader to help the dear animals all they can.—ED.]

REPLIES TO CORRESPONDENTS.

Sister of Wards.—We cannot agree that in a well-managed hospital it is necessary to awake the patients at 4 a.m. "so as to get through the work." Patients should not be roused. If the routine ward work begins about six the majority of the patients will then be awake. The remedy is more nurses on duty so that the work can be got through between 6.30 and 9 a.m.

OUR PRIZE COMPETITIONS.

April 4th.—How would you nurse a Rest Cure case?

April 11th.—Describe (a) one disease due to bacteria in the air; (b) one disease due to bacteria in water and soil; (c) one disease due to bacteria in food?

April 18th.—How would you apply first aid to the injured in Eye Accidents, if far from a doctor?

April 25th.—Name diseases which may cause obstruction in the oesophagus, and how to feed such patients?

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