

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 QUESTION OF PROFESSIONAL ETHICS.

To the Editor of THE BRITISH JOURNAL OF NURSING.

DEAR MADAM,—I am obliged for the information given in a recent journal under the heading "A Question of Professional Ethics," as to the unprofessional newspaper control of the so-called Nursing and Midwifery Conference. It seems a pity Matrons holding responsible positions give their names and hand us over to a sub-committee of "journalists and clerical workers" who are in certain instances, whilst working against our interests, making money out of us. Indeed I agree with those foreigners who think we are a very stupid people, and nurses a specially gullible class. Nothing I admired more at Cologne than the keen professional business management of the German nurses—it was a lesson to us. Why should it be lost?

Yours truly,

ONE OF THE PIGEONS.

"SISTER CINDERELLA BRITAIN."

To the Editor of THE BRITISH JOURNAL OF NURSING.

DEAR MADAM,—I am glad to see from reports in THE BRITISH JOURNAL OF NURSING that there appears to be quite an awakening concerning Registration, but from what I know of the way Bills dealing with women's interests are shelved in the House of Commons, I fear, unless the Nurses' professional conscience is considerably quickened, "Sister Cinderella Britain" will find herself at San Francisco in grubby garb and minus that "crystal slipper"! It is quite probable the nurses of the United Kingdom may be the only "domestic servants" admitted to the Congress; if so, I hope we shall not be compelled to sit below the salt!

Yours truly,

SISTER FURIOSO.

NURSES FOR FOREIGN MISSIONS.

To the Editor of THE BRITISH JOURNAL OF NURSING.

DEAR MADAM,—Those nurses who have read the reports of the speeches at the Annual Meeting of the Nurses' Missionary League must feel profoundly the force of the appeal of the speakers for more workers. In the United Kingdom it is estimated that there are some 50,000 nurses at work, and on all sides we are hearing of the shortage. To nurse the hospitals in all parts of the world where the Church Missionary Society is at work there are but 67 nurses. Think of it, and the sum of unnecessary human suffering represented by the shortage abroad. We claim the equality of rich and poor in sickness, but we

must go further and claim the equality of black and white, yellow and red in sickness. Setting aside, for the moment, the missionary aspect of the question, is it not our duty from the humanitarian point of view, to do something to ease the intolerable burden of pain borne by so many in distant lands? What am I doing, does someone ask, sitting at home and writing letters instead of practising what I preach? Well, at any rate, I have tried to do my bit, and it is due to medical advice that I am not abroad. It is my insight into the great needs of the sick in the foreign mission field, in a brief span of work there, that makes me feel so keenly what a satisfying life is in store for those who take the initial plunge and devote their lives to the work of foreign missions.

Yours faithfully,

ULEMA.

REPLIES TO CORRESPONDENTS.

Probationer, Hull.—The usual treatment for shock is to keep the head low, apply warmth by means of hot blankets, and hot water bottles. In connection with the latter special care must be taken not to burn the patient, and the bottles should not only be encased in thick woollen covers, but they should be placed over not under the blanket in which the patient is wrapped. Stimulants are frequently given in these cases.

Miss G. T.—The course of training for the medical degrees of the University of London extends over 5½ years, and 5 years is the minimum time for any qualification. The minimum a student should expect to spend annually if paying for board and lodging in London is £130. There are various University Scholarships open to women, varying from £60 downwards, besides those open to general competition. Write to the Dean of the Medical School, Royal Free Hospital, Gray's Inn Road, W.C., and ask for information as to the course there, and the scholarships for women.

Probationer, Liverpool.—The temperature in diphtheria is not typical in character. Sometimes it rises to 103 deg. or 104 deg. More often 101 deg. or 102 deg. is the limit, and not infrequently it is never over 100 deg.

OUR PRIZE COMPETITIONS.

May 30th.—Mention some nursing expedients which you have seen used in district and school nursing?

June 6th.—Describe appearance of blood in hemorrhage from lungs. (a) Define nurse's duties in such an emergency.

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[previous page](#)

[next page](#)