

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.

INTERNATIONAL NURSING CONFERENCE,
SAN FRANCISCO, JUNE, 1915.

To the Editor of THE BRITISH JOURNAL OF NURSING.

DEAR EDITOR,—IN THE BRITISH JOURNAL OF NURSING, May 9th, you will find a programme of subjects to be treated at our Congress in 1915, and we are asking our affiliated countries to select from this list not more than five of the subjects which are especially close to its interests, and also to select the women to write papers on these subjects. It is thought that in this way each country can have the most freedom in treating of what seems to it most important. The papers should be limited to ten minutes' time, and, also, we cannot promise that each one will be *read*, but all will be printed, and, so far as possible, each one will receive a place in the programme, preference, of course, being given to those who are present in person to read their papers.

As we expect to divide our sessions into Sectional Meetings, to some extent, we hope to have time to consider a large variety of subjects.

I will be obliged if you will notify me as soon as you can, what papers we may expect from your country, and, when possible, the names of those who will write them, so that we may go ahead with getting the whole programme in order.

So, to sum up:—

1. Each affiliated country may contribute not more than five papers.
2. Papers to be not more than ten minutes' reading length.
3. Subjects and writers to be selected by the National Association of the country.

Hoping that this is satisfactory to you,

I remain, as ever,

Yours sincerely,

L. L. Dock

(Hon. Sec. I.C.N.).

New York City.

[This letter, with others, will be considered at the meeting of the Council at Birmingham, to be held in Room B of the Conference Hall, on June 9th, at 6 p.m.—ED.]

WEST LONDON MISSION.

To the Editor of THE BRITISH JOURNAL OF NURSING.

DEAR MADAM,—I believe to-day it is to be decided as to what is to be done with the surplus Insurance money in London, nearly £200,000. Possibly the Panel doctors may have it. They are already well paid. District Nurses do most of the work, yet there is no suggestion of helping the societies who supply them. Naturally the subscribers, who are already taxed, cannot or will not, in many cases go on with their subscription. Out of the

patient's 7s. 6d. (if a woman and bread-winner) one cannot expect her to subscribe anything. Would it not be fair to allocate a portion of this money which seems to go begging (in spite of the shortness of Sanatoria) to District Nursing Institutions?

Believe me, yours faithfully,

ESTHER BAYLEY,

District Nurse, W.L.M.

EQUALITY OF RICH AND POOR IN
SICKNESS.

To the Editor of THE BRITISH JOURNAL OF NURSING.

DEAR MADAM,—Since reading your review on "State Registration and Rural Nursing," by the Countess of Jersey in the *National Review*, I feel I must just support your plea for "Equality of Rich and Poor in Sickness." From personal experience I know the quality of nursing provided for the poor in many rural districts is shamefully inadequate. Surely if the Chancellor of the Exchequer who claims to be the best friend of the poor, is going to tax us to provide nursing in the home for insured persons, he is going to see to it that they get the real thing, and not a substitute. I am glad to see the matter will be up for discussion at our Birmingham Conference. If really good salaries were offered, the nurses would soon be forthcoming.

I am, yours,

C. V. T.

OUR PRIZE COMPETITIONS.

June 13th.—Describe the different diets now prescribed in enteric fever, and the principles underlying their adoption.

June 20th.—Mention some common causes of convulsions in children, and state how you would manage a child until the arrival of the medical practitioner.

June 27th.—Name the principal points to be remembered when placing a patient on the operating table.

NOTICES.

Those attending the Nursing Conference at Birmingham should write to the Hon. Secretary of the Conference, General Hospital, Birmingham, for a voucher enabling them to obtain a return railway for a single fare and a third.

The Cobden (Temperance) Hotel, Birmingham, is centrally situated and the terms moderate, bed and breakfast with ham and eggs or other hot dishes costing 4s. 3d.

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