

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.

NATIONAL RELIEF FUND.

Treasurer: H.R.H. The Prince of Wales.

YORK HOUSE,
ST. JAMES'S PALACE,
S.W.

To the Editor of THE BRITISH JOURNAL OF NURSING.

DEAR MADAM,—We regret to say that the Subscription Sub-Committee of the National Relief Fund has heard of a good many cases in which use has been made of its name, or of the names of those connected with it, with the object of securing support for appeals which are quite unauthorised.

We hope you will be so good as to permit the appearance of this letter, the object of which is to inform your readers that they may be assured that any extravagant or grotesque appeals emanate from persons who have neither the authorisation nor the support of this Committee.

Yours faithfully,

C. ARTHUR PEARSON,
HEDLEY F. LE BAS,
FREDERICK PONSONBY.

Joint Secretaries,
Subscription Sub-Committee,
National Relief Fund.

"PUSHED OUT."

To the Editor of THE BRITISH JOURNAL OF NURSING.

DEAR MADAM,—At the risk of trespassing upon your valuable space, I venture to ask if you cannot do anything, either personally, or through the JOURNAL, to arouse public opinion to the great danger, to the wounded and our profession, arising from the flood of untrained Red Cross workers now monopolising the work of trained nurses. I heard this morning from a friend, whose mother has offered to rent a thoroughly equipped nursing home in town, with a full staff of *thoroughly trained nurses* for the use of our troops, that the offer has been declined by the Red Cross Society on the ground that they have enough nursing homes already. Mrs. — says upon investigation these homes turn out to be mostly makeshifts, worked by *untrained* Red Cross people. She adds that her cousin, —, at her request is going to the War Office to try to get something done, but thought that you, as our leader in this country, might also be able to stem this evil. I need not point out to you the great danger of allowing our trained workers to be thus pushed out of their proper places. Of course this is only an additional argument for registration. I may add that a friend of mine who was theatre and outpatient sister at — and a valuable organiser

can now find no scope, owing to this cause. Apologising for troubling you,

Yours sincerely,
C. M. W.

AN APPEAL.

To the Editor of THE BRITISH JOURNAL OF NURSING.

DEAR MADAM,—It is with gratitude and thanks I have to acknowledge a lantern which Miss F. O'Donnell, a patriotic Irish Nurse trained at Steevens Hospital, Dublin, has given us. Before the war cloud burst, she raised a subscription amongst her friends and the lantern was originally intended for hygienic and sanitary purposes, but the present conflict has altered our plans and the question now is "How can we help to teach First Aid and Red Cross work?"

I appeal to all who can help, or anyone who has anything to offer in the way of slides or First Aid requisites, dealing with improvised methods of treatment, to send some to us. We want to instruct our Island women, to make them efficient helpers, should the demand arise, and thus be in a position to alleviate as far as possible any sufferings that may come our way.

(NURSE) B. V. HEDDERMAN.

Isle of Inishmann.

WHERE TO VOLUNTEER.

Nurses wishing to volunteer for active service must do so at the office of the British Red Cross Society, which is now established at Devonshire House, Piccadilly, W., by the kindness of the Duke of Devonshire, who has placed the whole of the ground floor at the disposal of the Committee, or through the St. John Ambulance Association, St. John's Gate, Clerkenwell, E.C. Nurses engaged in hospitals or on the staffs of Private Nursing Institutions, or District Nursing Associations, should first get the assent of the Matron or Superintendent.

The Medical Department of the Admiralty state that many applications are made there by nurses of varying qualifications. The authorities are not in need of nurses, or desirous of enrolling them, and it is unlikely that their services will be utilized if offered there.

Many hundreds of applications are also made at the War Office. In both instances application should be made through the British Red Cross Society.

Applications for enrolment in the International Nursing Corps for Active Service in War, from three years' certificated nurses, should be made at the Headquarters of the International Council of Nurses, 431, Oxford Street, London.

OUR PRIZE COMPETITIONS.

September 5th.—What precautions may be adopted to minimize the danger to the patient in the case of a wound which has been exposed to infection?

September 12th.—What do you understand by shock, and what can you do to combat it?

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