

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.

DEVELOPMENT TO MEET NEW CALLS.

To the Editor of THE BRITISH JOURNAL OF NURSING.

DEAR MADAM,—I read in your paper a few weeks ago that it is proposed to start a Club for Nurses in London. It struck me that this was the first thing of the sort for members of our profession, and a step in the right direction. It is a sign that we are recognising (in common with other women) that we must develop our lives among larger lines, lines large enough to meet the new calls of our day and generation. There is no doubt that the nature of our occupation tends to narrow our horizon. Here is to be a Club where we can come into touch with other sides of life, write letters, read books and meet our friends.

I hear that the Club cannot be started, premises taken, &c., until a good sum is in hand, and I have a definite proposal to make. Will every nurse who reads this letter send a few stamps towards raising the £2,000 needed; this would show that we ourselves wish to take part in what is for the advance of our profession.

Considering the thousands of nurses who read your paper, a large sum could be raised without difficulty, and we should have had a hand in doing the thing ourselves. I hope the Hon. Secretary, Miss C. H. Mayers, Sloane Gardens House, 52, Lower Sloane Street, London, S.W., will be inundated with stamps in answer to this letter.

HOSPITAL SISTER.

[We have pleasure in publishing this letter as requested. We fear, however, that nurses are at present so occupied and have so many calls upon their purses that they have little time or money to spare for the organisation of a Club for their own benefit.—ED.]

PERTINENT INQUIRIES.

To the Editor of THE BRITISH JOURNAL OF NURSING.

DEAR MADAM,—Many years ago I put my name on the Register of the Royal British Nurses Association, and always believed that until such time as an Act of Parliament for the legal Registration of Nurses were passed this would suffice. Now we are being urged to support another scheme for voluntary registration through the College of Nursing, Ltd. Is it fair that when we have already paid for registration under an Association having a Royal Charter, we should be expected to pay again for registration under a Limited Liability Company if we wish to be "up to date," as someone said to me the other day when urging me to support the College scheme? It gives one a feeling of great insecurity. Guineas are none too plentiful with nurses, and if the new scheme

is up to date now something else newer may come along in a year or two, and then what is to be done. Shall we have to pay yet another guinea in order to keep abreast with the times then, and what advantage will it be to register under so many schemes? I do not propose to spend any more money on any of them, but when we get legal registration, and a legally protected title, I will gladly pay £3 3s. or more if required, as I consider the advantages one will secure will be cheap at the price.

Hoping that I may soon have the joy of enrolling my name on a State Register, and may have the right to use the title of Registered Nurse, and thanking you for your work on our behalf for so many years.

I am, yours faithfully,

A LEGAL REGISTRATIONIST.

GAS GANGRENE IN GUNSHOT WOUNDS.

To the Editor of THE BRITISH JOURNAL OF NURSING.

DEAR MADAM,—I have been much interested in reading the report you published last week of Lieut.-Col. Gordon Watson's article on Gas Gangrene in Gunshot Wounds. Many of us who are busy workers in hospitals, who do not see the medical papers, and, if we did, have no time to read them through and pick out what is useful to us, greatly appreciate having this done for us, and just those things that we want extracted, with, it seems to me, an unerring instinct, and presented to us in our own JOURNAL. It often seems to me when mine comes to hand that some subtle sixth sense, must have told you just what I wanted to know about.

Recently I have nursed several cases of gas gangrene, and therefore the lucid article on the subject is specially interesting to me. It is a terrible complication, so sudden in its onset, so frequently fatal in its results, and so painful to the patient, and therefore to those around him before relief comes either in convalescence or death. I hope when this war is over I may never see another case.

Thanking you for your splendid work for the nursing profession.

Yours faithfully,

A CONSTANT READER.

OUR PRIZE COMPETITIONS.

April 22nd.—In what way and in what respects can the nutrition of the infant be improved by ante-natal supervision of the mother.

April 29th.—What is an empyema? What operations are undertaken for its relief, and what have you to say about the after nursing?

OUR ADVERTISERS.

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