

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,—It is with great interest that I read the letter from "A Hospital Sister," in your current number. I suppose the letter refers to the proposed Imperial Nurses' Club, of which we have heard and which I most sincerely hope will soon materialize into an established fact.

It seems to me that this club will fill a want which existed even before the War, and which is greater than ever now (as I think anyone who has tried "War Nursing" will agree), for naturally the authorities have had very little space to spare for nurses' sitting-rooms in military hospitals, where every available room is needed for patients' accommodation.

I think the suggestion of our all helping is excellent, and have much pleasure in sending "a few stamps" to Miss Mayers, and hope others will do the same.

Yours, &c.,
A TRAINED NURSE.

To the Editor of THE BRITISH JOURNAL OF NURSING

DEAR MADAM,—I expect many of us have read and are very grateful to you for publishing a letter headed "Development to Meet New Calls." But there is one sentence in your editorial note which puzzles me. Is it true that by contributing to and belonging to such a club as "Hospital Sister" describes, one would be doing so for one's own benefit. From this point of view, I suppose one might say lectures in hospitals which one pays for and attends are for one's own benefit, and yet the real object reaches far beyond that—for I hope, by their help, to become a capable nurse. If I joined a club where I could enlarge my mind and outlook and develop my personality, I should be doing so in order that I might become a capable woman—a still higher thing—and certainly not for my own benefit.

Yours, &c.,
PROBATIONER.

[We sympathize with our correspondent and quite agree that by cultivating a broad outlook we benefit not only ourselves but the community. Our point was that at the present, when nurses are bending all their energies to securing the care and comfort of the sick and wounded, they are not likely to have much time or money to spare on furthering their own concerns, and to raise £2,000 for a club requires considerable energy and organization.—Ed.]

THE CHEERS OF THE BRITISH BLUEJACKETS.

To the Editor of THE BRITISH JOURNAL OF NURSING.

DEAR MADAM,—It was stated in the JOURNAL last week by one of the New Zealand nurses on board the ill-fated *Marquette* that the cheers of the British Bluejackets for the New Zealand Nurses, called for by the Commander of H.M.S. *Talbot*, made her "thrill." But those of us who have not been able to leave this country have been thrilled also, and for generations to come, I venture to say wherever the story is told of the New Zealand nurses (who with one accord exclaimed "fighting men first" when the existence of the doomed vessel was numbered by minutes, and the Commander of the French boat approached to rescue them), those who listen to it will be thrilled and, let us hope, lifted to a higher plane. When the War is over there will be another volume to add to "A History of Nursing," and I sincerely hope Miss Dock will write it.

Yours faithfully,
STAY AT HOME.

OUR PRIZE COMPETITIONS.

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

May 6th.—Mention some of the different agents employed in applying counter-irritation, and describe the methods of their application.

NOTICE.

The reports of the Conferences between the Hon. Arthur Stanley and his advisers, and the representatives of the Central Committee for the State Registration of Nurses, on March 2nd and March 24th, reprinted from THE BRITISH JOURNAL OF NURSING can be obtained from the Manager, B.J.N., 431, Oxford Street, London, W. Price 1d. each, postage extra.

FRENCH FLAG NURSING CORPS.

Candidates for the French Flag Nursing Corps Service in France can be interviewed on Friday, April 28th, 2.30 to 4.30 p.m., at 431, Oxford Street, London, W., or by arrangement with the Hon. Secretary. Candidates must be well educated, and hold a certificate for three years' general training, which they should bring for inspection. Experience in fever nursing and massage, and a knowledge of French are additional advantages.

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