

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 PRIVILEGE AND A PLEASURE.

To the Editor of THE BRITISH JOURNAL OF NURSING.

DEAR MADAM,—Thank you very much for what you are doing for Miss N. It will indeed be a blessing to her to have the 5 shillings a week. Miss N. went to Leigh to tell the rector (the Rev. R. S. King) the good news, and he said he should also write to thank you. It is always such a good thing to be able to help anyone individually and directly, I think. It has cheered Miss N. up most wonderfully. Hers is a very sad and lonely life, but I hope, now that things are so much brighter financially, that she may be better and happier than she has been for a very long time.

Again thanking you,

I am,

Yours faithfully,

PENELOPE R. COOK.

St. Mary's, Branksome Road,
Southend.

DEAR MADAM,—I again return my most sincere thanks and gratitude for your great kindness and the trouble you are taking for I know it all means extra work for you.

Please convey my sincere gratitude to all those ladies and dear fellow-nurses who have so generously sent me help. Rector King is so pleased. I return thanks next Sunday, for it is all an answer to prayer.

Yours very gratefully,

Southend-on-Sea,

F. N.

THE REGISTRATION OF V.A.D.'S.

To the Editor of THE BRITISH JOURNAL OF NURSING.

DEAR MADAM,—I was glad to note that at the Guy's Hospital Nurses' League Dinner the inevitable question was asked, "Are you going to register V.A.D.'s on the College Register; or what are you going to do with them?" A reply was given that "V.A.D.'s would not go on to the Trained Nurses' Register," "It would be for the hospital trained nurses to regulate the examinations of the V.A.D.'s." Why? What have we as a skilled profession to do with them? Like thousands of other War workers, these women no doubt have offered, inspired by good motives, to help the country during this crisis in its affairs. Surely there will be two courses open to these helpers when peace is declared—they can either enter nurse training schools and be trained, or return to their usual avocations as home makers, governesses, teachers, shop girls, domestics, mill hands, actresses, and Society women. Why are hospital-trained nurses to be made responsible for

them? It appears to me most unjust and unpractical. So surely as they become associated with us professionally, they will enter into most unfair competition with us outside hospitals. To the public one certificate is just as good as another. If V.A.D.'s want a *quid pro quo* for their patriotism, as no other type of person appears to do, let their own organisations see to it that they get some reward; why should the trained nurse be made to pay and the public confused?

Yours truly,

Birmingham.

SUSAN M. TAYLOR.

To the Editor of THE BRITISH JOURNAL OF NURSING.

DEAR MADAM,—May I ask on this "burning question" of registering V.A.D.'s, will it include the Commandants? If so—well, words fail. What humiliation many trained nurses have suffered in being placed under untrained auto-crats during this war cannot be expressed in Parliamentary language. I have been matron (so-called) in two Red Cross Hospitals, and I have not only lost my health, but I have suffered grave damage to my professional reputation. I hope the whole profession will rise up against any such suggestion—it is monstrous.

Yours sincerely,

A NERVE WRECK.

A REAL TRAGEDY.

To the Editor of THE BRITISH JOURNAL OF NURSING.

DEAR MADAM,—May I express my appreciation of the attitude of THE BRITISH JOURNAL OF NURSING during Ireland's present trouble.

Your position, in refraining from comment, and in not allowing the slightest trace of political feeling to appear, must be almost unique.

Faithfully Yours,

K. O'SULLIVAN

("An Irishwoman who
mourns with her
country").

Chatham.

[We are sure all who know and love Ireland feel nothing but sorrow at this sad time.—Ed.]

FRENCH FLAG NURSING CORPS.

Candidates for the French Flag Nursing Corps Service in France can be interviewed on Friday, May 26th, 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.

OUR PRIZE COMPETITIONS.

May 27th.—What is uterine inertia? What are its varieties, and how would you treat each kind?

June 3rd.—Describe in detail the methods for the nursing of a severe case of delirium tremens.

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