

## 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.*

## THE INVALUABLE B.J.N.

To the Editor of THE BRITISH JOURNAL OF NURSING.

DEAR MADAM,—I am home on leave after a year's foreign service, and may I offer my very sincere thanks for the manner in which you have protected our interests during our absence. If it were not for the invaluable *B.J.N.* we Army nurses would have known nothing of the truth of the struggle which has been raging. I gather from the last reply in the House of Commons from Mr. Hayes Fisher that so long as we registrationists resist the autocratic government by the College of Nursing as proposed in their Bill, which proposes to define standards and make Rules and Regulations without our consent, that it is not probable a Nurses' Registration Bill will go through, and that we are to have an opportunity of presenting our point of view to the Government before any Bill is introduced. That is as it should be, and we know whom we have to thank for these concessions. As we Army nurses are not supposed to express an opinion in the Press,

I am, yours gratefully,

A SISTER T.F.N.S.

## THE VOTE COVERS ALL.

To the Editor of THE BRITISH JOURNAL OF NURSING.

DEAR MADAM,—Please try and stave off registration until we have the Vote—then, let us hope, the rank and file will count, and we can bargain for a just Bill for intelligent women, and not legislation for sheep.

Yours truly,

A SUFFRAGIST.

## SHOULD V.A.D. PROBATION COUNT AS TRAINING.

DEAR MADAM,—I am a firm supporter of Registration, but I am also a lover of fair play and I feel I must write a few words of protest with reference to J. B. N. Patterson's and other letters in previous issues of your Journal. I have been Matron of Military Hospitals both at home and abroad and have at different times been responsible for a considerable number of V.A.D.'s and I claim to know something about them.

I think had your correspondents seen the very excellent work done by these girls in heavy medical wards (enteric and dysentery included) throughout a hot and trying season in Egypt, they would feel with me that it would be very unfair if this work did not count as part of a valuable training. I know well that the majority have had a vastly more varied experience than the average "pro." in a civil hospital, and no girl of ordinary intelligence can have failed to have absorbed a great deal of useful knowledge.

They took their turn of night duty in rotation, with trained nurses at their head, to whom they acted as probationers. Your correspondent would do well to be sure of her ground before stating "They receive no lectures or systematic training," as I can tell her of hospitals where a highly trained Senior Sister is specially selected to lecture to and examine both junior and senior V.A.D. s. I am, of course, alluding to properly organised Military Hospitals, and not to V.A.D. Hospitals.

I am, Dear Madam, yours truly,

FULLY TRAINED NURSE.

## WOMEN ON THE LAND.

To the Editor of THE BRITISH JOURNAL OF NURSING.

MADAM,—Last year you were kind enough to mention our work of putting women on the land in your Journal. We placed many hundreds, and I think it will not surprise you to hear that when engaged in outdoor work, no matter what the weather, they never caught cold; also they soon lost any trouble of nerves, and were so tired and sleepy in the evening that the rather uncomfortable surroundings did not trouble them. We have had many letters from farmers lauding their conscientiousness and grit. Also asking for "more." This year they want twenty, where they tentatively took six last year.

It would be very kind of you if you would mention that we are still working away at this job, that anyone willing to join our parties should write, enclosing stamped addressed envelope to Miss Myers, Organiser, 10, Abbey Road, London, N.W.

Thanking you for your kind help last year.

Faithfully,

C. A. DAWSON SCOTT.

10, Abbey Road, N.W.

## OUR PRIZE COMPETITIONS.

## QUESTIONS.

*April 14th.*—What precautions would you take in nursing patients in a ward devoted to the reception of persons suffering from venereal diseases? How may infection spread (1) from one patient to another, (2) to the nurse-in-charge?

*April 21st.*—How are wounds infected? How may infection be avoided or minimized?

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The method known as "on sale or return" is about to be prohibited. This is due to the restrictions on the import of paper, a limitation in its turn imposed by the necessity to set free more shipping tonnage for the import of food. It is necessary, therefore, that all readers of "The British Journal of Nursing" should without delay place orders with their newsagents for the regular supply of the paper, otherwise they will not be able to obtain a copy. Newsagents will provide only for an assured sale. Price, 2d. weekly.

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