

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.

MANY A MICKLE MAKES A MUCKLE.

To the Editor of THE BRITISH JOURNAL OF NURSING.

DEAR MADAM,—I have been *thinking!* and the product of my thoughts is this:—The value of very small contributions of money towards the support of any propaganda work whatsoever is much greater, from the moral standpoint, than large contributions from the few. We probably have before us a fight for a *just* Registration Bill. There are more than 4,000 members of the State Registration Society, which is the same thing as saying there are that number of intelligent fair-minded nurses who are anxious to do what they can to assist in winning such a victory in the best interests of the profession. My deduction is this:—We will take the round number of 4,000. If each member of the State Registration Society were to keep a money-box and drop into it every week *just one halfpenny*, no more (unless she wished), she would be contributing the small sum of 2s. 2d. a year, and the total contributions of the 4,000 members would amount to the substantial sum total of £433 6s. 8d.! How does this appeal to your readers? If favourably, what is to hinder us from *all beginning at once and doing it?* May I quite diffidently suggest that the value of it will largely depend upon the *regularity* with which it is done. Suppose we keep the money-boxes on our dressing-tables, where we can see them while we are dressing our hair, and we drop in our halfpenny before going down to breakfast on Sunday morning. A good day—Sunday. Busy people like nurses require aids to memory. I have great pleasure in sending the contents of my money-box for the year in advance—2s. 2d.—just as an earnest of my intention.—Yours most hopefully,

BEATRICE KENT.

P.S.—What could we not do with an assured income of £433 6s. 8d.? And how pleased we should all feel with ourselves that we had contributed it! Let us begin.

[A Registration money-box is a novel idea. We hope it may be taken up by those members of the S.S.R. who realise what an immense influence the Society has exercised in furthering the cause of nursing organization by the State with its very limited means. We think every trained nurse ought to put aside a little sum annually in support of professional ideals—say a penny in the pound of what she earns. With this self-inflicted tax we should soon attain our aims.—Ed.]

SILVER AND ELECTRO-PLATE.

To the Editor of THE BRITISH JOURNAL OF NURSING.

DEAR MADAM,—May I support "A Sister, T.F.N.S." in her protest against Matrons bombard-

ing Nurses trained at the hospitals over which they preside, and who have left the institution with "Letters from Olympus." I have seen the verbose document sent out by Miss Lückes, warning "Londoners" against the College of Nursing. She did the same thing thirty years ago when the B.N.A. was started—and I am sorry to say our revered Miss Nightingale also warned "Nightingales" against joining professional Associations in her letter to us about the same time. Why cannot Matrons realise they have no right to dictate to Nurses *en bloc* as if they had no minds of their own, and as if they must all think and act with one accord. Human nature is very perverse, and the mere fact of being treated like a fool is apt to antagonise one's sympathies. Imagine "Nightingales" after all being only "Electro-plate" in the estimation of Miss Lückes. We consider ourselves 18-carat gold.—Yours truly,
"A NIGHTINGALE."

CORRESPONDENTS PLEASE NOTE.

If "A Member Q.A.I.M.N.S. (R.)" and "Audi alteram partem" will send their names, not necessarily for publication, space will be found for their letters. No anonymous communications can be inserted.

OUR PRIZE COMPETITIONS.

February 3rd.—Describe the symptoms in a severe case of influenza. Suggest proper nursing to be employed in such a case. State the period of incubation and the period of isolation. What complications may occur in the course of the disease?

February 10th.—How would you prepare for giving a Hypodermic Injection? State what a hypodermic tray should contain.

February 17th.—Describe Bed-making, and how to lift and move patients.

February 24th.—Describe how to give a nasal douche, the articles used, and danger to avoid.

NOTICE.

Owing to the Railway Companies advancing the rate of carriage of all publications sent by passenger train by 25 per cent., the newsagents are beginning to feel that they cannot supply penny publications to the trade at the current rate. As it is impossible to reduce the cost in the case of a penny journal beyond the very substantial reduction per quire at which newsagents now acquire them, and as we constantly receive complaints that nurses cannot promptly obtain this journal, we would advise all those who really value it to become subscribers and to order it weekly from the Manager, BRITISH JOURNAL OF NURSING Office, 431, Oxford Street, London, W. Price, 6s. 6d. per annum, post free; six months, 3s. 6d.; three months, 1s. 9d.

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