

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.

AN INSULT TO BRITISH WOMEN AND THE EMPIRE.

To the Editor of THE BRITISH JOURNAL OF NURSING.

DEAR MADAM,—The Executive Committee of the Ladies' Lyceum Club will be much pleased if, in view of the fact that publicity has been given to the action of a guest at a recent dinner at the Club, you will give such space as is at your command to the enclosed vigorous and unanimous repudiation by the Committee of any connection or sympathy with such unpatriotic action.

The patriotism of the Club may be judged from the fact that for nearly three years a rule has been in force that no person of enemy alien birth or nationality may belong to the Club, and the nationality of every candidate must be proved before election.

For two and a-half years teas and entertainments for wounded soldiers and, more lately, for wounded officers, have been held in the Club, and from the very first week of the war the activities of the Lyceum League of Help have resulted in quantities of clothing and supplies of various kinds being sent to units and hospitals abroad as well as at home. In addition, practically every member of the Club is engaged on war work of some description, although it would be invidious to mention names.

Hoping you will be able to publish this protest against such disloyal behaviour.

Yours faithfully,

K. E. KIRKBRIDE,
Secretary.

Lyceum Club, 128, Piccadilly, W. 1.

RESOLUTION PASSED BY THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE, February 20th, 1918.

The Executive Committee of the Lyceum Club have learned with indignation that during a public dinner, held at the Club on Monday, January 28th, 1918, to celebrate the Enfranchisement of Women in this country, Miss Sheepshanks, one of the guests and not a member of the Club, without permission or authority, read a letter, from Frau Marie Stritt in Germany which had reached the International Suffrage Alliance, and was in no way addressed to the Lyceum Club, greeting the victory of English women and offering most hearty congratulations to the women of Canada and the Enfranchised States of the American Union. In the opinion of the Executive Committee the reading of this letter from an enemy alien was a deliberate insult to British women present at the dinner, and is calculated to reflect on the patriotism of the Members of the Lyceum Club whose hospitality was thus abused, and the Committee direct that Miss Sheepshanks shall not, under any circumstances, be again admitted to the Club.

[We have great pleasure in publishing the above communication. We are of opinion that the action of Miss Sheepshanks was not only a delibe-

rate insult to British women, but to every heroic man in His Majesty's Forces who is defending the Empire.—ED.]

WHO IS THE FOUNT OF ALL HONOUR?

To the Editor of THE BRITISH JOURNAL OF NURSING.

DEAR MADAM,—Many Irish nurses are furious at the insult offered to Miss M. Huxley in awarding her a second class Royal Red Cross for her splendid services to nursing in Ireland, when V.A.D.s bandage rollers, canteen workers, clinical clerks, society women and others have all been given First Class Honours. The Irish Nurses' Association should make a protest against this favouritism and misdirection of recognition.

None of the "College" Matrons here (whose work for humanity and the nursing profession does not bear comparison with that of Miss Huxley) have got R.R.C. Second Class. The whole thing is a scandal, and I for one hope the Irish nurses will bring the matter to the notice of the King, who is the Fount of All Honour in spite of the fact that others recommend for them.

AN INDIGNANT IRISH NURSE.

[We agree that it is time such discrepancies were brought to the notice of the King.—ED.]

R.B.N.A. MEMBER JUSTLY AGGRIEVED:

To the Editor of THE BRITISH JOURNAL OF NURSING.

DEAR MADAM,—You told in your paper last week how a public undertaking was given that our Secretary's questions would be answered at the Liverpool meeting on the 22nd. They were questions that nurses have every right to have answered and relate to matters which are of the most vital importance to us all. Therefore, when a pledge was given that they would be answered we thought that things would be cleared up at last. I know just as well as anyone what pressure of work there is at the office, but I for one wrote and urged the Secretary to go up again. I thought she might hesitate to incur the expense of a second journey to Liverpool, for ours is a self-supporting body which spends nurses' money economically. I therefore sent a donation which, frankly, I could very ill spare to the General Fund. It seemed to me just that I should, as I asked her to go. I wired her on the day after the lecture to send us the replies. This is the answer received:—"Questions not answered.—Macdonald." And so I believed the *pledge was broken* and we are left asking.

I apologise to the Secretary for having helped to send her on a wild goose chase, but perhaps it may not have been in vain if the nurses discover that they should think a bit instead of behaving like sheep. This business is just as bad as recognising classes of nurses. We want one class—the fully trained.

Yours truly,
CONSCIENCE.

OUR PRIZE COMPETITIONS.

QUESTIONS.

March 9th.—How would you bring up a baby which weighed 4 lbs. at its birth?

March 16th.—Describe the management of cases of heart disease.

Do not miss the back cover.

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