

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 IRISH FUND FOR A NATION'S TRIBUTE TO NURSES.

To the Editor of THE BRITISH JOURNAL OF NURSING.

DEAR MADAM,—With reference to above subject, may I ask you to publish this letter?

At the beginning of the war 50 per cent. of our Irish Trained Nurses volunteered and went on active service, and, while absent, without their leave or consent, the College of Nursing, Ltd., London, started a branch of its organisation in this country and appealed to the charitable Irish public to subscribe liberally to a fund for the endowment of a Nursing College in London and a benevolent fund for Nurses. Now, we Irish Trained Nurses would like to be enlightened on the following points:—

1. What proportion of this charity will go to endow the College of Nursing?
2. What proportion of the benevolent fund for Trained Nurses?
3. What body will administer this fund?
4. What qualifications may entitle women to apply and get benefit from this proposed benevolent fund for Nurses?

The majority of our Irish Trained Nurses are self-respecting, hard-working women, and we do not want our calling to be made little of, especially at the present time, in Ireland, and what our Sisters are doing for suffering humanity has been done voluntarily, and I am pleased to be in a position to state that when invalided in Service the British Government have granted pensions and looked after them in a most generous manner. In conclusion, I hope the people who attended the meeting at The Royal Hospital, Kilmainham, on Tuesday, 21st inst., will get my questions answered before subscribing to this Fund, A Nation's Tribute to Nurses.

Yours faithfully,

KATE KEARNS.

29, Gardiner's Place, Dublin.

KERNELS FROM CORRESPONDENCE.

A Liverpool Sister writes: "There is a movement here to have the Military Cross, instead of the Military Medal, awarded to Army Nurses, and the War Office is being approached. Would it not be the right method to have Army Nurses rank as officers before they claim officers' privileges?" [We think so.—ED.]

"C. F. S." writes from Dundee: "Do you consider it professional for the Matron of a military hospital to accept a purse of money from the officers and staff—especially in celebration of having received an R.R.C.?" [No; we do not.—ED.]

☐ Sister Mary writes:—"How graphically the Sister in the retreat puts facts before us in her letter from the front. One is pleased to know our dear dead soldiers had so sympathetic a woman with them in passing through darkness into light. I hope she will come safely through this time of trial." [Our correspondent will appreciate these kind words.—ED.]

NOTICES.

THE NEW POSTAGE RATES.

The Postmaster-General gives notice that the new postage rates will be applied to all articles posted after midnight of June 2nd-3rd. The rates affected are those for inland letters, postcards, book-packets, samples, and parcels, and for letters to British possessions generally and to the U.S. of America. Notices giving full particulars of the new rates will be issued to all post offices in the course of this week.

What Nurses must remember is to place stamps to the amount of three halfpence on every letter, and a penny stamp on every postcard. In inviting a reply from the *B.J.N.* please enclose stamps.

THE PAPER CRISIS.

NO "SALE OR RETURN."

To secure further economy in the use of paper the Board of Trade have made an Order prohibiting, on and after June 24th the delivery to retailers in the United Kingdom or in any other European country of newspapers, periodicals, books, post-cards, or similar publications on the terms known as "sale or return" or under any other arrangement by which any allowance is made for unsold copies. On and after December 10th the Order is to apply to any dominion or country whatsoever.

TO OUR READERS.

Our readers are therefore advised to place their orders for THE BRITISH JOURNAL OF NURSING with their newsagents at once, and so avoid disappointment.

Trained Nurse Members of Nurses' Societies are privileged to have the JOURNAL sent weekly from the office, 431, Oxford Street, London, W., for the reduced annual price of 6s. 6d. instead of 10s. 10d. This privilege will be extended until June 30th next. Nurses should apply without delay.

OUR PRIZE COMPETITION.

QUESTIONS.

June 8th.—What are the most important things to observe (a) in bringing up a child from birth till it is a year old, (b) from a year to five years old?

June 15th.—What steps would you take if you came in contact with a case of infectious disease as a district nurse—(1) for the welfare of the patient, (2) to prevent the spread of infection?

June 22nd.—Describe the terms Concussion, Cerebral Compression, Cerebral Irritation. Describe the treatment of such cases.

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