

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.

HAVE YOU EVER SEEN A GHOST?

To the Editor of THE BRITISH JOURNAL OF NURSING.

MADAM,—With regards to various letters, &c., appearing of late in your issues, I should like to state an experience of my own, or so, *re* telepathy.

When I left England in 1916, I left my deputy at my civil job, in not very good health, but had not heard of her being any worse. In the March of 1917 I had a dream or vision, call it as you will, in which she was in bed very ill, and the then Vice-President of the Hospital appeared and said: "Tell me how she is, I cannot see her, is she fit to move?"

I wrote home at once with regard to this, and my letter crossed theirs, informing me the then Vice-Chairman had been very ill and operated on for glaucoma (at that time), and that he had arranged for private ambulance transport to take my deputy home, she being otherwise too ill to travel (T.B. pulmonary, unfortunately).

She also appeared to me the day she passed away, and again most vividly on the anniversary of that day.

Again, I was at this time assistant in a civil hospital in England some years ago, and there was to be a new resident H.S. I did not see him at night, as he had not arrived till the late train. On visiting the Matron in the morning, she said: "Did you see Mr. ———?" I said, "No," but gave her an exact description of him as he had appeared to me during the night, correct, as it transpired, to clothes, &c., and looks, and in the exact place in the corridor of the hospital in which I afterwards met him.

He one day later asked me in what place we had met before. I could not tell him—as, as far as I knew, I had never set eyes on him till that day after his arrival at the hospital.

It is in the same way I often think of some one suddenly that I have not written to for a long time and write to them, later receiving a letter from them dated the same date as my own would be.

I remain,

Yours, &c.,

W. M. BICKHAM,
A/Matron, T.F.N.S.

KERNELS FROM CORRESPONDENCE.

E. Horton writes: "It is time some of us engaged in baby work waked up, as Miss J. Paterson says in her interesting article on 'Baby Feeding.' She says not a word of how one can get a course of instruction at Dr. Truby King's Babies of the Empire Centre. Perhaps she will

give information on this point in a future number of the B.J.N."

Miss Amy Newman: "It is a pity the College people cannot realise how right and just it is that the pioneer Registration Bill should take precedence of a Bill drafted by its Council. Why should the College come along and 'steal our thunder' and our liberty at the same time?"

Sister Faith: "How ungenerous of the College of Nursing, Ltd., to attack our Bill in Parliament. Just like them. I know several Members of Parliament, and they are determined the nurses shall not be handed over to the tender mercies of this self-sufficient body of persons."

Staff Nurse E. Graham: "No body of Nurses is more delighted at the turn of events in Parliament than Scottish nurses. We feel we can breathe again."

Irish Sister: "So thankful we sat tight on the registration question. We said we would not be controlled by St. Thomas's Hospital, London, and we will not."

Many Sisters and Nurses: "We do hope we may have the pleasure of meeting Major Barnett and Sir Samuel Scott some of these days. We want to shake them warmly by the hand, and all the other kind friends in Parliament, who are showing sympathy with and understanding of our cause."—(We had better not count our chickens before they are hatched, but should our Bill become law this Session there is little doubt that we must celebrate the great event in an appropriate manner, and this cannot be done without returning thanks.—ED.)

Sister Children's Hospital: "I agree with you, a Special Register for Nurses trained in Children's Hospitals will have a fatal result so far as these hospitals are concerned. Bright girls will train in hospitals which will qualify them for the General and not a Supplementary Register, which will stamp them as semi-trained."

A Tuberculosis Nurse writes: "I was delighted with the admirable 'Paper on a Sanatorium for Nurses' contributed last week by a 'Nurse Patient.' In my experience, especially in private sanatoria, there is much too much dish washing and housework extracted from the patients, and as for ward sweeping it should be strictly forbidden. I agree with your various correspondents that 'noise' is one of the greatest abuses in Sanatoria, and the lack of privacy a perfect penance for the more refined patients."

OUR PRIZE COMPETITION.

QUESTIONS.

April 19th.—What new inventions have you seen in use during the War?

April 26th.—How would you care for beds, bedding, blankets, rubber sheeting and ward linen, to keep them economically hygienic when in hospital use?

We regret we were unable to award a prize this week.

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