

maintained. This nation proved itself heroic in the highest degree during its persecution by the Central Powers, and it is well for the world that such a people should exist and multiply.—Ed.]

AWARDS FOR NURSES.

To the Editor of THE BRITISH JOURNAL OF NURSING.

DEAR MADAM,—In the *Morning Post* (February 12th), under the above heading, was a copy of a letter from Mr. Winston Churchill, stating in a reply to an enquiry from an M.P., that—

1. All Nursing Sisters, on being demobilised, received an official letter conveying thanks for their services.

2. That, as far as he is aware, there are no cases in which nurses serving abroad, who have been recommended for the R.R.C. by the G.O.C., who have not received it.

Our Secretary of State for War has certainly been made the butt for one of his own so-called "terminological inexactitudes." In my case, after four years and seven months' continuous service with no leave during 1915 or 1916, I was demobilised by my own request, with merely a W.O. wire, "Authority is granted for your release."

My gratuity cheque was sent in an envelope, written in pencil, with no communication.

I was twice recommended by the O.C. of my hospital for the First Class R.R.C.; but such recommendations have a long long trail before they reach the G.O.C., and my case probably never left the clerk's hands in the A.D.M.S. office.

Strange things happen. It would be interesting to know why the W.O. letter calling for further recommendations in October, 1918, was only sent to two hospitals in the Cork Command, as there were only two awards to be made.

This fact was acknowledged in writing.

I shall be glad to know of those trained nurses who have been demobilised without the said letter, if they care to send their names to—The Secretary, Professional Union Trained Nurses, 17, Evelyn House, 62, Oxford Street, W., stating the hospitals at which they served.

LATE SISTER, Q.A.I.M.N.S.R.

PROBLEMATIC BENEFITS.

To the Editor of THE BRITISH JOURNAL OF NURSING.

MADAM,—In the report of my address at the P.U.T.N. Meeting in Glasgow, a strange mistake has been made with regard to what I said *re* the Registration Acts.

It is stated that I pointed out that we had secured State Registration "and its resulting benefits."

As I have entirely failed to find any resulting benefits, it must be impossible for me to point them out to others.

What I did say, was that the Acts *might* prove a benefit to the public, but that nurses wanted Laws that were self-administered, and that they should not be content to leave the management of

their affairs in the hands of the Minister of Health.

Believe me, yours faithfully,

CHRISTIAN H. MCARA.

Scottish Nurses Club.

205, Bath Street, Glasgow.

[The Editor of this Journal devoted eleven columns to the report of the P.U.T.N. Meeting at Glasgow, so that the new trade union movement amongst nurses should have an ample report and fair play; even then it was impossible to report every speech verbatim. The most important and admirable address, that of Councillor Rosslyn Mitchell, appeared in full, and we advise trained nurses to read it carefully. We sympathise with Scottish nurses in their keen disappointment in not securing a United Kingdom's Nurses' Registration Act; but that is no reason why very great benefits should not accrue through the Act for Scotland, if the nurses unite to secure them, and co-operate with English and Irish nurses.—Ed.]

NURSES ON STRIKE.

To the Editor of THE BRITISH JOURNAL OF NURSING.

MADAM,—If there is no mistake in the report in your Journal that the nurses of Carrickmacross Fever and General Hospital have come out on strike, and that the patients are without attendance, I hope the nurses who are in Trade Unions will take some action to uphold the honour of their profession, and express themselves about striking against innocent patients. It is almost unbelievable that a real nurse could leave her patient.

I hope you will print this letter from me as I have spoken upon the platform of the Professional Union of Trained Nurses. Nothing will help their organisation so much as taking a nurse's view in this case, and nothing will hinder them so much as taking a wrong line.

A Trade Union of Nurses should be the quintessence of all that nursing means at its best, and should uphold its high ethics.

Yours faithfully,

HELEN G. KLAASSEN.

February 21st, 1920.

[There were several strikes of nurses in Mental Hospitals in Ireland last year, and there is no mistake in our report to which Miss Klaassen refers. The nursing conditions in many Irish hospitals are in urgent need of improvement.—Ed.]

We regret to have to hold over many "Kernels."

OUR PRIZE COMPETITIONS.

We regret we cannot award a prize this week.

QUESTIONS.

February 28th.—How would you care for the mouth, the hair, and the nails of a helpless patient?

March 6th.—In what cases may profuse sweating occur as a prominent symptom?

What are the causes of this sweating, and what its special nursing?

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