

**SHOULD WE BE TAXED TO BRING GERMAN CHILDREN TO ENGLAND?**

To the Editor of THE BRITISH JOURNAL OF NURSING.

DEAR MADAM,—Seeing that we have been taxed to starve German children for months after their fathers and brothers had stopped fighting, we must surely, even those of us who are “mothers of the dead,” be willing to pay taxes to succour and show what hospitality we can to the surviving children.

I am sure it must be painful to many readers of your admirable paper to see that you take the opposite view—a view which at one time we might, in our conceit, have called “un-English” or “un-British.”

Yet, perhaps, we have no right to show hospitality to German children while we neglect our own. There is, however, nothing but our lack of goodwill and intelligence to prevent our caring for both.

Yours truly,

ARTHUR ST. JOHN.

“Glenyards,”

Bonnybridge, Scotland.

[We regret to differ in opinion with Captain St. John, whose work for the improvement of our prisons and penal system has our warm admiration. But we do emphatically differ from his views on the question under discussion, and moreover, with few exceptions, we express the opinion of the readers of this journal. We are of opinion that there has been deplorable mishandling of the Germans since the futile Armistice—not altogether “British,” either in its inspiration or application—and that the peculiar psychology of the German race would have responded to and benefitted by a policy robustly just and British, rather than by any mawkish sentimentality, which is the antithesis of generosity. We are discussing the treatment of the children of a race of criminals—a people who plotted for years a holocaust of murder by fire, sword and bomb, for gain; who raped “religious”; debauched women and children; crucified, spat upon, starved and infected helpless prisoners; made crew yards of chateaux, and devastated by theft and mischief the fair lands of our Allies. To forget these things and their tragic results in a twinkling of an eye is by no means commendable; it is proof of lack of mental and moral stamina. We claim that, if the children of these criminals are suffering, it is the result of their parents’ misdeeds. It is the great Law—mercifully more ruthless than any human law.

We believe in heredity, and for that reason we strongly protest against hospitably entertaining the children of the German race in England. What succour they need—in the name of humanity—let them be given in their own country. In this connection, the suffering of many of our own children—as the result of the war—is very considerable. We should prefer more space devoted to their needs in our daily press than to the huge whole-page advertisements of the needs of alien

“Lilies. We ask again, who is paying for this extensive campaign of publicity? The cost of it has now run into thousands of pounds.—ED.]

**MISREPRESENTATION SHOULD BE CORRECTED.**

To the Editor of THE BRITISH JOURNAL OF NURSING.

MADAM,—I am very glad to see that attention has been drawn in the Journal to the mis-statement in the *Daily Telegraph* referring to powers stated to have been conferred by Parliament on the “College” as a Registration body. I wrote to the Minister of Health when I read the article, and his reply showed that the position had been mis-represented. No disclaimer from the “College” seems to have yet appeared, such as one would have expected.

Yours faithfully,

M. L. B.

**KERNELS FROM CORRESPONDENCE. NURSES PURPOSELY MISLED.**

*Miss Annie Glover*; “I am glad Miss Hawkins has drawn attention to the misleading statement in the *Daily Telegraph* with regard to the College of Nursing, Ltd., being the registration authority. In a reply from the Minister of Health I am informed that ‘the General Nursing Council is responsible under the Nurses’ Registration Act, 1919, for the formation of the Register.’”

[We consider it is much to be regretted that nurses should be confused on this point by ignorant journalists in the lay press.—ED.]

**REGISTRATION BAR.**

*Miss D. E. Horn (Southsea)* —“I think the idea splendid for a bar for State Registration for the members of the S.S.R. of T.N. Could not members of the R.B.N.A. attach it by a narrow band of ribbon to the bar of their badges?”

*Miss Elizabeth Martin writes*:—As a member of the Society for State Registration of Trained Nurses, I quite agree with Sister Martha, and think we certainly deserve some mark. Her suggestion, I think, too, is very nice; namely, that of a “Bar” etc.

*Miss M. Davies (Cardiff)* —“I should love to have a Registration bar. I thank ‘Sister Martha’ for her suggestion. Now all the strain is over, I feel quite dull. Lucky we got all our propaganda through before letters cost 2d!”

[If the bars had pins attached, they could be easily worn; the matter will be discussed at the Annual Meeting on June 4th.—ED.]

**OUR PRIZE COMPETITIONS. QUESTIONS.**

*May 29th.*—Flatulence after operation; give causes and treatment.

*June 5th.*—What is blood? What is its composition? What causes it to clot?

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