

KERNELS FROM CORRESPONDENCE. NURSE REGISTRAR APPROVED.

Miss Martha Drew, Manchester.—"Your readers will quite agree with your expression of opinion 'that during the preliminary stages of drafting the Rules, the General Nursing Council must have time for free discussion with as little publicity as possible'; but a straw shows which way the wind blows, and I was delighted to read the advertisement for a Registrar, as it will, I feel sure, strongly commend itself to the profession throughout the country, that this important official shall be 'one of us,' and highly qualified at that, and that our Council is evidently in touch with our wishes and is looking after our interests."

Miss C. Matthew.—"All very pleased in this hospital that our Registrar is to be a nurse—it will make all the difference in the atmosphere of the office."

C.F.T., Dundee.—"I hear of Scottish nurses applying for registrarship in England, though apparently we are still in the dark ages here as our Council is not advertising for a thoroughly trained woman. As we nurses have to pay the excellent salary of £400 a year, why is all that money to be given to a person who may not know one certificate from another? I very much approve the wording of the English advertisement."

[We hope you have sent this expression of opinion to your Council; we have had several private letters to the same effect.—Ed.]

SHOULD WE BE TAXED TO BRING GERMAN CHILDREN TO ENGLAND?

Health Missioner, Middlesex.—"May I heartily support your attitude *re* our taxation (in order to bring German children to England). It were more creditable and patriotic of the daily Press to urge the needs of our own children than those of our debauched enemies."

"I was approached the other day by a local resident with a request for a contribution to the hospitality funds. She had collected a considerable sum from the cottagers! Having absorbed the discussion in the B.J.N., and being in addition hot with indignation at the inability of mothers to provide necessary nourishment for their children during an epidemic of measles, I spoke forcibly for ten minutes. I told my interviewer that every child in the country, under 10, should have a quart of milk a day; that the vast majority *cannot* have it at its present price, and will feel the results of the deprivation all their lives. 'Would milk make any difference to them?' was her astonishing question."

"A New Zealand illustrated newspaper I have offers a painful contrast between those beautiful, firm-legged, dairy-fed children, and our own. The collector departed with the remark, 'I suppose I have sympathy.'"

"The whole thing is founded on false sentiment."

Miss B. C. Stableforth, L.C.C. School Nurse.—"I have not suffered bereavement through the

war and so am not competent to judge, but I find it difficult to believe that a true mother's grief could be harder to bear, because something is being done to save innocent children of other mothers from misery, starvation, and death."

[This is not the point, but that if necessary "something should be done" to help the children of alien enemies in their own countries, and not in England.—Ed.]

"*A Mother of the Dead.*"—"I witnessed the arrival of the 500 children of enemy aliens last week. Anything more banal could not have been imagined. They appeared in much more robust health than thousands of our own half-starved children (orphans of patriot fathers and overworked mothers). To hear these children (taught to be hypocrites by the pacifist and foolish old women who welcomed them) actually singing "God Save the King" made me more indignant than ever. I thank you very sincerely for permitting an expression of the truth in your unbribable journal."

(This correspondence must now cease. May we advise our readers to read the "Peak of the Load," by Mildred Aldrich, which rounds off her lovely "A Hilltop on the Marne," and "On the Edge of the War Zone." In it she sums up the situation with consummate accuracy and truth.—Ed.)

SCIENTIFIC NURSING.

Miss Rosa Green.—"I have attended several conferences on health of recent years—never a word about scientific nursing—everything else under the sun! I hope our General Nursing Council will buzz along and teach the B.P. that you can't play 'Hamlet' without the Prince of Denmark!"

WHY SHOULD THEY?

V.A.D.—"I note Rural Nursing Associations are deploring the fact that V.A.D.'s are not coming forward to nurse in villages, &c. Why should they? We willingly gave our services during the stress of the war; now we are either required at home or intend to qualify for a profession, and thus not be 'blacklegs,' as we have been accused of being in the past."

[A very wise decision.—Ed.]

REPLIES TO CORRESPONDENTS.

Miss Ysabel Pedrosa.—"We should advise you to write to Miss S. Watkins, Matron, Anglo-American Hospital, Gezira, Cairo, who would be able to give you useful information as to training facilities in Egypt."

OUR PRIZE COMPETITIONS.

QUESTIONS.

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

June 12th.—Give instructions how to clean a Bathroom.

June 19th.—What do you know of hay fever, its causes and treatment?

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