

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.

KERNELS FROM CORRESPONDENCE.

Miss Emily James.—"The B.J.N. has been always of great interest, and often of service to me. I am now a 'retired' person, but my interest in your cause is not lessened thereby."

Miss M. Lord.—"Mrs. Bedford Fenwick has accomplished a big thing. The State Registration of Trained Nurses will prove the best gift nurses have ever possessed."

Miss A. F. Skey.—"I am very sorry I shall be unable to attend the General Meeting. I am enclosing my railway expenses as a little help towards it."

Miss M. Walker.—"What a joy we all received for Christmas, 1919. I feel, oh, if I could only start my nursing life over again. Such progress!"

Miss C. Lee.—"Every nurse, College or no, owes a very big debt to Mrs. Fenwick, for working in season and out for her betterment. I wish they realised it more, for the younger ones will reap the benefit, and yet they seem indifferent, just taking what comes along, regardless of who did the spade work; also that they are raised from the group of unskilled labourers, to a profession with recognition."

Member of College.—"A friend brought me to the meeting last Thursday; it was the first time I understood the Nurses' Registration question. It was a most inspiring gathering."

Trades Unionist Nurse.—"I attended the State Registration meeting on January 8th. I went in a spirit of disquiet, but left the hall very greatly comforted in my mind. Those of us who have done nothing in the past to better things as the State Registrationists have done, have little right to complain of our present bad conditions, rather we deserve them. We must all do our part in the future, and by way of beginning I enclose my subscription for the B. J. N."

(A very practical beginning, and one we hope will be widely followed by many other nurses who realise the value of our independent professional voice in the Press.—ED.)

Miss Susan Strahan.—"If my congratulations come late, they are none the less sincere; my sister and I are gratified to see the reward of what is practically a life's work on behalf of the nursing profession. We have already our R.B.N.A. incorporated by Royal Charter, and its existing Benevolent Funds. Why not an R.B.N.A. College of Nursing? We shall also look forward to our Nurses' Defence Union. . . . I fail to see why the fee for Registration should be less than £2 2s."

Many women who will now register, have not expended sixpence on behalf of State Registration."

Mrs. Lingard (née Kelly) Wiborg, Finland.—"Congratulations on State Registration."

American Nurse.—"In politics, you are developing the newest forms and best adapted to the modern age. I firmly believe myself that alliance with Labour is not only logical and abstractly sound, but that it is going to come very fast. If I am not mistaken, the new Belgian Nurses' Association is very much on these lines."

Anxious Matron.—"I do hope the General Nursing Council, when it gets to work, will be able to do something to get in the right type of probationer. Of late I have found it quite impossible to supply this need."

Miss Jane Desmond.—"With the entry of the Nursing Acts, surely we have seen the last of charity appeals for nurses in shops and in the streets. I never pass the Nation's Fund for Nurses shop in North Audley Street without indignation. What with the high rent and salaries for the lay women who run it, a nice tidy sum must be expended which should be used for the purpose for which the money was extracted from the public. When will this Fund condescend to issue its audited accounts?" [It is high time these accounts were available. The Fund is a War Charity, and there is not the slightest excuse for privacy concerning its financial affairs.—ED.]

Co-operation Nurse.—"I enclose papers, the suggestion to deprive us of our residential Club in Langham Street is very disturbing. I always imagined myself a Member of the Co-op., but find I am no such thing. Can nothing be done to give us some security of tenure?" [We hope to find space to deal with your controversy next week.]

NOTICE.

The Editor will next week discuss the making of Rules and the Duties and Powers of the General Nursing Council, set up in the Nurses' Registration Act. She regrets space is not available in this issue.

OUR PRIZE COMPETITIONS.

QUESTIONS.

January 17th.—An anastomosis has to be made between the stomach and jejunum. How would you prepare the patient for four days before the operation?

January 24th.—What do you know of anthrax, and of the methods of infection with this disease? What are the nursing points to be observed in caring for a case?

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