

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.

OXFORD WOMEN'S COLLEGE FUND.

To the Editor of THE BRITISH JOURNAL OF NURSING.

MADAM,—In the message which the Queen gave through the Chancellor to the University of Oxford, when she received the degree of Doctor of Civil Law on March 11th, Her Majesty was pleased to express her deep interest in the appeal for endowment which is being made by the Women's Colleges. She pointed out that they did not enjoy the advantages of older foundations and could not look back to a royal or princely founder, nor had they been endowed by a long line of wealthy benefactors. She hoped that "not only here but in the larger world outside, a generous response would be made to this appeal."

We do not wish to add anything to the Queen's eloquent and cogent words, which Her Majesty has since reinforced by a most generous gift of £500; but we ask you to give them the publicity which, we feel sure, will secure the response that Her Majesty has asked for. Donations should be sent to the Viscountess Rhondda, 92, Victoria Street, Westminster, London, S.W. 1.

Yours, &c.,
CURZON OF KEDLESTON,
Chancellor of Oxford University;
RHONDDA,
Hon. Treasurer Oxford Women's
Colleges Appeal Fund.

KERNELS FROM CORRESPONDENCE.

A VOICE FROM AFAR.

Miss E. M. Newman, Branch Superintendent, C.E.Z. Mission, Rainawari: "May I thank the unknown reader of the B.J.N. who has so kindly sent us 5s. for our work by last mail? Our great effort now is to get bedding, mattresses, blankets, and sheets, and mackintoshes. We have pyjamas and kurtins for the patients, and lay them on grass mats until we can get the bedding. Moses was put in a basket made of these mat reeds; Christ also in the manger. They are made from the bulrush and woven together with rice straw. Every native, from highest to lowest, uses them in Kashmir; we have them made double and they are very clean and comfortable. Readers of your journal have helped us in many ways. New Zealand reader sent £10, Canada reader 1 dollar 25 cents, English readers £19; we thank them all. We read every word in the Journal, and then send it on to Ladakh, which is 18 days' journey from Kashmir. We gave a tea and a few garments to the extreme poor as a thanksgiving when we read you had at last after all these years of struggle, got the Registration Act passed. God bless and keep you."

[How far-reaching is the power for good or evil of the Press! We do feel proud to know that in

Kashmir and even at far Ladakh our colleagues are keen about the Journal's work, and rejoice with us at home over the passing of the Nursing Acts, realising the lever they may become in raising trained nursing into the fine profession it has the right to be. Miss Newman's Mission is in a village four miles from any European. Gifts of money or hospital stores most welcome. Our readers will remember her Dispensary Hospital was burnt out, a grievous loss. Address, C.E.Z. Dispensary, Rainawari, Srinagar, Kashmir, N. India.—ED.]

A MOST INJURIOUS CAMPAIGN.

WAR OFFICE AND PENSIONS MINISTRY AFFECTED.

Miss Harriet Green, London: "Our Canadian Sisters and the general public in Canada must be forming a strange idea of how our War Office and Pensions Ministry treat nurses disabled in the nation's service, if they believe all the tall talk of Lady Martin Harvey. Nothing could be more injurious to our prestige than the highly-coloured exaggerations of this actress. I have written to friends in Canada protesting against this begging campaign in our name, and I hope trained nurses with friends there will do likewise and expose what surely are untruths so far as the deaths of nurses are concerned. I only wish I was in 'Sunny Alberta,' I would have put some posers to 'her ladyship,' and I congratulate Calgary nurses in not taking this exploitation sitting down. How sick I am of actress and society patronage. Why cannot the former 'climb' on their own, and not on the nursing ladder?"

[We have written to several Government Departments to draw their attention to the slur on their treatment of war nurses, if Lady Martin Harvey's statements are true, and to protest, as one of the nation's nurses, in having our profession depreciated throughout the Dominion of Canada by this actress begging in our name without our consent. The War Office and the Pensions Ministry are most deeply affected by the statements spread broadcast of their neglect of their obligations to nurses who are rendered unfitted for work in the service of the former. In Toronto and no doubt elsewhere Lady Harvey said, according to the *Toronto Globe*, that "the nurses who have suffered so terribly in the war, and now, ill, unable to work, without a pension, are faced with the workhouse." The Minister of Pensions, the Rt. Hon. J. I. Macpherson, K.C., M.P., should insist upon Lady Harvey proving her words, or stop most mischievous untruths being spread from one end of Canada to the other.—ED.]

PRIZE COMPETITION QUESTIONS.

April 9th.—What do you consider should be the qualifications for a Health Visitor? Describe a typical day's work of a Health Visitor.

April 16th.—What is marasmus? What are the principal nursing points in caring for a case of this kind?

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