

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.

NATIONAL BABY WEEK COUNCIL.

To the Editor of THE BRITISH JOURNAL OF NURSING.

DEAR MADAM,—On behalf of the National Baby Week Council, I beg to tender our sincere thanks for the publicity you so generously gave in your columns to this year's Baby Week Celebrations.

The National Baby Week Council realises how much of the success of its work is due to the publicity given by the Press, and your kind help has been deeply appreciated.

Yours faithfully,

ERIC PRITCHARD,

Chairman of the Executive Committee.

5, Tavistock Square, W.C.1.

A TIME OF GREAT DIFFICULTY.

To the Editor of THE BRITISH JOURNAL OF NURSING.

DEAR MADAM.—In answer to several enquiries as to why subscribers had not received the May and June issues of *The Canadian Nurse*, we have in all cases sent letters explaining that all over Canada the commercial printers have been out on strike since May 1st. These workers struck, not because of a cut in wages, but because they wanted the same money for less work, which the employers have not been ready to grant. If they did this, the cost of publishing the magazine would be much increased, so I feel satisfied that our subscribers will have patience and consideration till this can be settled.

We are now sending out this circular letter that all subscribers may know the reason for the non-appearance of the past two issues.

The July issue will be brought out as soon as possible and will contain the account of the Quebec Convention, Reports, &c.

The May and June issues will either be brought out later, or subscription dates advanced two months, thus working no loss or hardship on the subscribers.

I wish to express my thanks for the votes of confidence in my management given at the Quebec Convention and ask for your consideration in this time of great difficulty.

Thanking you in advance.

Yours very truly,

HELEN RANDAL, R.N.

Editor.

The Canadian Nurse and Hospital Review.
East Burnaby, B.C.

THE IMPORTANCE OF TEACHING THE PHYSIOLOGY OF REPRODUCTION IN THE TRAINING OF NURSES.

To the Editor of THE BRITISH JOURNAL OF NURSING.

DEAR MADAM,—Will you allow me, under the above heading, to express my full agreement with Miss Bielby, who wrote in your issue of July 9th,

in her desire and gratitude for Dr. Fairbairn's advance in the teaching of nurses? And may I add a most urgent plea for whole instead of one-sided teaching in all our training schools. In hospital, and afterwards in district work and private nursing, one feels sorely the insufficiency of one's partial knowledge. We nurse boys and men through acute infections; we are appealed to by mothers for advice in their training of their sons as well as their daughters. Wives—as such—and occasionally husbands—as such—consult us; and time and again for *lack of knowledge*, we lose, or only partly use, opportunities for education and help; whereas, if we had but a whole knowledge of the physiology of reproduction, we could give invaluable, simple, practical advice, for which many individuals and families would be healthier and happier.

Yours faithfully,

A WINCHESTER NURSE.

BARRIER NURSING.

To the Editor of THE BRITISH JOURNAL OF NURSING.

DEAR MADAM,—I have seen the system of "barrier nursing," as practised in a London infectious hospital, and had both theory and practice explained to me, a good many years ago, and I was interested in the report of Dr. Harries lecture, and in his statement that in Liverpool the distinctive marks have now been abolished, and the Medical Superintendent relies solely on the skill and efficiency of the nurses.

That is a high tribute to the conscientiousness and ability of the nursing staff in that particular institution, and, incidentally we are reminded of the great importance of probity, judgment and clear thinking on the part of nurses; because, if a nurse does not keep continually before her mind's eye the all-important but non-existent barriers, an infection may be conveyed to a patient already debilitated by serious illness, and the consequences be of the gravest.

Yours faithfully,

CHARGE NURSE.

KERNELS FROM CORRESPONDENCE.

A KIND GIFT.

Miss Margaret Hitchcock, New Zealand, writes: "I see that some sad person is unable to continue her subscription to the B.J.N., also that she has been a regular subscriber for a very long time. Though only a fairly recent subscriber myself I can sympathise with her as I look forward to receiving my Journal always. I have no doubt that by the time this reaches you the subscription will have been paid. Still, in that case, my enclosure will do for next year."

[It has been applied to this purpose.—Ed.]

PRIZE COMPETITION QUESTIONS.

August 20th.—Describe a typical case of small-pox; the nursing points, and the precautions to be observed.

August 27th.—Which infectious diseases are particularly liable to be spread by the agency of human carriers? State in each case in what part of the body the germs are likely to be carried.

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