

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.

A PROUD TITLE.

To the Editor of THE BRITISH JOURNAL OF NURSING.

DEAR MADAM.—I received last week my Certificate of Registration from the G.N.C. of England and Wales and am indeed proud to be the possessor of such a document, and to know that I am now entitled to call myself a "Registered Nurse." I cannot accept this valued certificate without sending you a word of thanks for all the trouble you have taken these many years in having so patiently plodded on in trying to have the Nurses' Registration Act passed in Parliament. You have spared yourself no trouble, and, I fear, have received many sharp rebuffs, but patience has been rewarded and we are now protected by law against unfair imitators.

Once again, to you, and to those who have so generously, with yourself, fought so hard to help us to receive this proud title of "Registered Nurse," I offer my deepest thanks.

Gratefully yours,
ELEANOR E. JARVIS.

Marina Court,
Bexhill-on-Sea.

To the Editor of THE BRITISH JOURNAL OF NURSING.

DEAR EDITOR,—I feel I must write and tell you I have received the Registration Certificate and how pleased I am. My sister's has not come yet. We both thank you very greatly for all your long years of work to get legal status for us. I am glad I came under your influence in my first year's training. . . . I have been surprised to find nurses holding good positions still hopelessly ignorant on the subject. They rush off to the "College" and say one is part of the other. How greatly they must be misled! You know Sam Weller's opinion of the Law; I am afraid it refers to many nurses. I shall, as always, keep in touch with nursing through the B.J.N.

EDITH E. PLEASE,
"Registered Nurse."

Betchworth Cottage, Dorking.

TREATMENT OF HYPERPYREXIA.

To the Editor of THE BRITISH JOURNAL OF NURSING.

DEAR MADAM,—I was much interested in your correspondent's letter on the treatment of hyperpyrexia. During my training I saw two cases of rheumatic fever with temperature of 108 deg. treated with the cold bath; one, a young woman, had also endocarditis. In neither case was there any sign of shock and both made an excellent recovery. The young woman afterwards became a wardmaid in the hospital.

Yours truly,
CONSTANCE MCCARTHY.

1, Fleet Street, London, E.C.4.

KERNELS FROM CORRESPONDENCE.

HOSPITAL ETIQUETTE.

Poor Law Infirmary Matron.—"I was interested in the 'Echo' re the Godstone lady Guardians visiting the nurses' bed-rooms 'without knocking,' as one might say. The mistake was doing so in violation of etiquette. I am inclined to agree with these ladies that, as Guardians of a public institution, they have a right of entry throughout the institution—but as they have responsible officials in control of departments, should not Guardians conform to hospital etiquette and good manners? For instance, if there were no women on the Board, no one would approve of male Guardians walking in and out of the nurses' bed-rooms without attendance. Thus it should be recognised as etiquette for Poor Law Guardians to request the attendance of the Matron when it is their duty to visit the resident quarters of officers—and not to intrude into the wards and theatres when the medical staff are attending to the patients without their consent. Surely this is only reasonable.

"In this connection I have heard of the Chairman of an important Nursing School taking visitors into nurses' bed-rooms in the Nursing Home, unaccompanied by a woman official, and on one occasion advising a Sister that it would be more economical if she removed her cap tails before reclining on the sofa!"

THE FIRST REGISTER.

Registered Nurse.—"It will be interesting to see, when the first Register is published, the Schools from which the nurses have availed themselves of the privilege of registration. At my old Training School all the nurses are holding aloof as 'Matron does not believe in registration.' These young women will have a rude awakening after the term of grace has expired. At a leading Poor Law Infirmary the Matron and nearly the whole of the certificated staff have registered, encouraged to do so by the progressive Medical Superintendent and Board. When applying for a post lately I asked the Matron if she was a 'Registered Nurse.' She laughed and said she was as she was responsible for superintending the training of nurses for the State exam., and didn't consider it fair for them to have a 'Gamp' at their head. She also told me she intended to sign 'Registered Nurse' on certificates, as the medical lecturers give their qualifications. This shows the right spirit. The sort of woman we need at the head of our leading Training Schools."

OUR PRIZE COMPETITION QUESTIONS.

February 11th.—In what diseases does dropsy occur? Mention some of the duties a nurse may be required to perform in the management of a case of renal dropsy?

February 18th.—For what complications is Cæsarian Section usually performed? What would you prepare for an emergency operation, and what are the dangers to be guarded against?

We regret we have been unable to award a prize this week.

[previous page](#)

[next page](#)