

## 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.*

## RECIPROCITY ALL ON ONE SIDE.

To the Editor of THE BRITISH JOURNAL OF NURSING.

DEAR MADAM,—Enclosed is a copy of a reply received by a friend from the College of Nursing, Ltd., in answer to her query whether, as she was a Registered Nurse, she could be placed on the College Register without further references being taken up.

The College of Nursing, Ltd., does not apply the same tactics to its own register that by Rule 9 (A) of the General Nursing Council it does to the State Register. In its own opinion the College of Nursing, Ltd., is of greater importance than the State Register.

Their conditions of Registration, 2 (e), gives them away, and, of course, will be their safeguard in regard to Miss Bremner's membership of their council, but does that necessitate her being placed on the State Register as a certificated nurse?

Yours truly,

HILDA KING, Registered Nurse.

3, De Beauvoir Road,  
Reading.

[COPY.]

THE COLLEGE OF NURSING, LTD.

DEAR MADAM,—I enclose an application form for membership of the College. Will you kindly send us a handwritten or typed copy of your certificate of general training?

I am very glad that you are a Registered Nurse, but I am afraid we must follow out our own methods of procedure and take up our own references, &c.

Yours faithfully,

F. A. SHELDON, Registrar.

[It will be noted that the College Registrar does not require a "certified" copy of the applicant's certificate, and presumably that is the reason why the word "certified" mysteriously disappeared from Rule 9 (A) during its transit from the General Nursing Council Meeting to the Minister of Health. Had it been retained, as agreed, members of the College could not have been placed on the State Register as secondhand entrants without submitting first-hand evidence of certification, as all other members of the profession have to do.—ED.]

## NOT BAD FOR A MAIDEN EFFORT.

To the Editor of THE BRITISH JOURNAL OF NURSING.

DEAR MADAM,—May I congratulate the Registered Nurses' Parliamentary Council on the success of its maiden effort at the General Election? Major Barnett (that valiant knight who is always ready to put lance in rest for nurses), in, with an increased majority! and Mr. Leonard Lyle (who

championed the notorious Rule 9 (A) in the House of Commons on March 22nd, 1922), out. There is reason to believe, too, that other candidates suffered some anxiety over the nurses' activities.

The profession is also very greatly indebted to the Labour Members. On the historic occasion when the scandal of Rule 9 (A) was before the House, but for the fact that 34 Labour Members were in their places, there is very good reason to believe that the House would have been counted out, and this matter would never have become, as it has now, a matter of history. It is the custom of the House that when Government business is finished at 11 p.m., unless forty Members are present (and it would have been easy for Sir Alfred Mond to have withdrawn all his partisans), no business is carried on. With 34 Labour Members in their places, the requisite number of 40 was assured.

This is only one of the reasons why nurses should be grateful to the Labour Members. Speaking personally, we have never once applied to them for help that was not given, and given freely.

Next time we will be better prepared, and hope to prove to all Members of Parliament that many nurses have votes, and others who have not can influence those who have.

Yours faithfully,

MAUDE MACCALLUM,

Hon. Secretary.

Professional Union of Trained Nurses.

## GOOD FACES.

To the Editor of THE BRITISH JOURNAL OF NURSING.

DEAR EDITOR,—Many thanks for sheet of portraits. Makes one feel proud to be a nurse to see such good faces.

I have just done my voting.

Yours faithfully,

EDITH E. PLEASE,

Victoria Almshouses, Reigate. Sister.

## REPLIES TO CORRESPONDENTS.

Complaints have reached the office of this Journal that the time allowed by the Council—one week only—in which to receive and return voting papers, is most inadequate. Voters whose permanent addresses in the Register are given in Scotland and Ireland will probably not receive their voting papers in time to exercise the franchise and nurses abroad are entirely disfranchised.

[This is a justifiable complaint. One week is much too short a time for this important business. The General Nursing Council for Scotland allowed four weeks, during which the electors could record their votes.—ED.]

## OUR PRIZE COMPETITION QUESTIONS.

December 16th.—Describe the nursing of a case of smallpox. What are the special dangers and complications?

December 23rd.—Describe some common disorders of the nervous system and their nursing care

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