

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 MISTAKE CORRECTED.

To the Editor of THE BRITISH JOURNAL OF NURSING.

DEAR MADAM,—My attention has been drawn to the statement in your issue of July 8th that we are inaccurate in saying in "English Prisons To-Day" that the Lady Superintendent of Holloway Prison Hospital is not a trained nurse. I have made enquiries, and I find that we have confused the Lady Superintendent of the Prison with the Lady Superintendent of the Hospital, and I am grateful to you for having pointed out the mistake. I have written to the Hospital Lady Superintendent expressing regret for our error, and promising that it shall be remedied in further editions of the book.

It is inevitable, in a work of this size, that a few inaccuracies should slip in, and we shall always be grateful to have them pointed out.

Sincerely yours,

A. FENNER BROCKWAY,

Joint Editor of "English Prisons To-Day."
Keir Cottage,
Thorpe Bay, Essex.

KERNELS FROM CORRESPONDENCE.

AN UNPROFESSIONAL PROCEEDING.

Would-be Registered.—"Are there any trained nurse officials in the office of the G.N.C.? If so, why are professional women interviewed by clerical workers who are not nurses, and why are these ladies permitted to express opinions as to their qualifications? I, for one, strongly resent such unprofessional methods. Such persons have no right to *express an opinion* on our qualifications. What do they know about them?"

[Nothing. The Council has appointed three trained Registration officials, and several other Nurses are also employed in the office, so that there is no excuse whatever for clerical workers interviewing candidates for registration, and it is, of course, unpardonable for such officials to express any opinion as to whether a candidate is eligible for registration or not.—Ed.]

SUPPLEMENTARY REGISTERS NOT POPULAR.

Matron Fever Hospital.—"Many of our nurses refuse to register on a Supplementary Register. Their reason is that they will have to remain in institutions all their professional careers. Now when they leave hospital they are eagerly engaged by private Co-operations, Nursing Homes, and can work abroad, but, if on a special Register only, this will not be possible. The majority of our staff are naturally disinclined to enter a general hospital for training—many are beyond the age at which probationers are admitted."

SO LONG TO WAIT FOR HELSINGFORS.

F.F.N.C. Sister.—"I do hope our bit of work for France had something to do with the growing appreciation of trained nursing there. I shall never forget conditions in 1915. It is splendid news that Nursing is to be a Profession in France, and facilities for the training and education of professional nurses provided by the Ministry of Hygiene. Those of us who worked for the French War Office have the happiest memories, in spite of great difficulties, of our work for the French sick and wounded—heroic gentlemen from highest to lowest in rank. Why do we not have an interim International Meeting in Paris; it is so long to wait for Helsingfors in 1925?"

THE G.N.C. NOT IMPARTIAL UNDER RULE 9A.

Miss Jane T. Taylor.—"Six of us have made up our minds not to register until the G.N.C. frees itself from "College" pressure. The Council should maintain an absolutely impartial attitude towards all nurses, and not give preferential treatment to members of any one organisation. My solicitor says as a judicial body the G.N.C. has placed itself in a very reprehensible position by Rule 9a. The Act never contemplated partiality, and independent nurses now have an excuse for doubting the strict sense of justice of the Council."

ONE GOOD RESULT.

Two Years' Cert.—"All our nurses are now given a three years' term of training, such as was instituted at St. Bartholomew's by you in 1881—*forty years ago*. The older nurses who are now registering, 'just to support the principle,' owe you a debt of gratitude for your perspicacity. Perhaps in a future incarnation, fifty years hence, you will return to find a registered nurse in the chair of the G.N.C.!"

NOTICE.

Owing to the great pressure on our space this week, and the inclusion of a full report of the G.N.C. Conference on the Examination Syllabus, we much regret that we have been compelled to omit many interesting matters. We hope to deal with them in an early issue.

NURSES ABOUT TO REGISTER.

Do not delay to send in your application Forms for registration at an early date to 12, York Gate, Regent's Park, N.W.1.

OUR PRIZE COMPETITION QUESTIONS.

July 29th.—What are Vitamines? Why are Vitamines necessary? What conditions are likely to supervene when Vitamines are absent or deficient?

August 5th.—What are the principal causes and consequences of dental diseases? What preventive measures may be employed?

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