

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.

THE GENERAL NURSING COUNCIL FOR ENGLAND AND WALES: FEES AND RECEIPTS.

To the Editor of THE BRITISH JOURNAL OF NURSING.

DEAR MADAM,—I should be obliged if you would insert a notice in the next week's issue of your paper, stating that (1) Receipts for retention fees and (2) receipts for badge fees, are being dealt with as quickly as possible.

As many thousand receipts are involved in each case, the numbers alone cause delay, but this is increased when, as often happens, the applicant does not sign her full name. A name and initials are often common to several nurses on the Register.

(3) Rules protecting the Uniform must, by the Act, be submitted to the Minister and laid before Parliament. This cannot be done until Parliament meets, and therefore no regulations can yet be published.

I may perhaps add that every unnecessary letter delays necessary work.

Yours faithfully,

M. S. RIDDELL,
12, York Gate,
Regent's Park, London, N.W. 1. *Registrar.*
6th October, 1923.

"A BIT ON."

To the Editor of THE BRITISH JOURNAL OF NURSING.

DEAR MADAM,—Much light is thrown on the far-reaching effects of betting by the fact that in a birth horoscope that division of it which governs drug habits, gluttony, irregular and perverted sex-instincts, speculation and gambling also governs betting. In other words, all these activities are grouped under the head of *indulgence in sensation*.

The Courts reveal the temptations and trend of such indulgence. This demoralising habit is widespread; rampant in villages and amongst the women in the "little houses." The nurse, especially the private and district nurse, who is—or should be—out to help all with whom she comes in contact to avoid unwise habits, inevitably not only destroys the value of her personal influence but encourages an insidious evil by participation in betting.

Moreover, the scrupulous cannot enjoy gains that are based on physical and moral injury to others.

I am, Dear Madam, yours faithfully,

MENA M. G. BIELBY.

Cranford, Middlesex.

KERNELS FROM CORRESPONDENCE.

A GREAT DISAPPOINTMENT.

An S. R. N.: "I wish to support 'General Trained' in her contention that there should be a distinction in the State Uniforms for 'General' and 'Special' nurses. As to the Badge, mine has arrived and never was I more disappointed. It is quite unworthy as a State Nursing Badge, and cannot be made of silver, as it goes yellow if left about for a day. Can we not have something designed which we shall be proud to wear?"

PROFESSION, INDEED!

Registered Nurse.—"Nothing will induce me to pay a second retention fee until I have seen my name printed in a copy of the Register. I sent in my application before members of the College whose names were passed out of their turn, and have appeared. I have been waiting for fourteen months. What the Ministry of Health is thinking of to permit us to be treated in this manner I don't know. I pay taxes to pay for the salaries of the thousands of bureaucrats employed there, and my registration fee and retention fee have been in use for months by the G.N.C., and I get nothing from either source. Nurses are the most contemptuously treated class of workers going. No wonder there is a shortage. I warn everyone to avoid nursing as a profession. Profession, indeed!"

[We sympathise with the views of our correspondent, but hope she will advise intelligent girls to adopt nursing as a profession. We must think of the welfare of the community, in spite of the errors of others.—Ed.]

REGISTRATION OF INTERMEDIATE NURSES.

The only Nurses who are now eligible for registration are what are termed Intermediate Nurses—those who have completed their three years' training and been awarded a Certificate since November 1st, 1919. The term of two years' grace for Existing Nurses has terminated.

WHERE TO REGISTER.

Apply for Application Form to the Registrar:—
ENGLAND AND WALES—12, York Gate, Regent's Park, London, N.W.

SCOTLAND—13, Melville Street, Edinburgh.

IRISH FREE STATE—33, St. Stephen's Green, Dublin.

NORTHERN IRELAND—118, Great Victoria Street, Belfast.

OUR PRIZE COMPETITION QUESTIONS.

October 20th.—Describe a model theatre for gynaecological operations, and what it should contain.

October 27th.—Say what you know about premature infants—how a nursery for such infants should be equipped in hospital.

[previous page](#)

[next page](#)