

## 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.*

## "COLLEGE IDEALS."

To the Editor of THE BRITISH JOURNAL OF NURSING

DEAR MADAM,—The paragraph "College Ideals" which appeared in your issue of November roth must have been a great shock to most of your readers. That the Executive Committee of the British Legion should for a single moment lend themselves to any scheme to divert even the smallest proportion of their funds from their most deserving object, the necessitous ex-service men, war widows and orphans, is incomprehensible.

In my opinion to obtain money from the public even in return for a "Poppy Song," upon which is printed "On behalf of Earl Haig's (British Legion) Appeal," and to give any part of the money obtained to any other purpose whatever is a most unjustifiable proceeding and likely to bring the British Legion Appeals into disrepute.

That even the members of the College of Nursing should drag the Nursing Profession still lower by lending themselves to such paltry means to obtain funds is almost unbelievable. Is it possible that there are women—Nurses—so wanting in self-respect and sympathy as to deprive necessitous ex-soldiers, widows and orphans of halfpence!

To all your readers who may share my feelings in this matter may I suggest they do as I have already done—write to the Committee of their local branch of the British Legion so that they in their turn may make their protest at the headquarters of their Association so that such a practice may be nipped in the bud, and for the future we may all contribute and work together for the benefit of those who have done so much for us.

I remain, dear Madam,

Yours faithfully,

The Lindens,  
Brimscombe, Stroud, Glos.

MARY BURR.

## THE NURSE PAYS:

To the Editor of THE BRITISH JOURNAL OF NURSING

DEAR MADAM.—I notice in the press that the House Committee and doctor of Tawe Lodge, Swansea (the Matron is Secretary of "College") Local centre recently applied to the G.N.C. for a grant of money to maintain its status of a Training School for nurses, as the requirements of the Nursing Council would have to be complied with, and it would be necessary to appoint a competent surgeon for at least twelve months, as well as purchase a quantity of instruments at a cost of about £100. It was stated that if the proposals were negatived, the Lodge as a training school would cease to exist.

The sub-committee recommended that the General Nursing Council should be asked to make a grant towards the new system; that the doctor's suggestion regarding equipment should be accepted, and that Mr. Howell Gabe should be engaged at

five guineas a case to perform operations in the operating theatre, to which should be attached a gallery to enable nurses to view the work.

The Clerk read a letter from the General Nursing Council that no grant could be made towards the training of nurses.—S. R. N., Wales.

Presumably neither the doctor nor the members of the House Committee are aware that the Registered Nurses finance the G.N.C., and that the Nurses' Act does not permit it to use our money for equipping training schools, and paying doctors' fees, even if the nurses are to be permitted to "view the work" from a gallery! We already resent the abnormally extravagant expenditure and incapacity of the G.N.C.. If it could squander our money outside the office as well as inside, where should we be?—ED ]

## "LIFTING CASES."

To the Editor of THE BRITISH JOURNAL OF NURSING.

DEAR MADAM,—I read with very great interest and appreciation your remarks in "Echoes" on November roth, on private nursing ethics, and hope it has met the eye of several nurses I know who have "lifted" cases from our co-operation, and who have provided themselves with work and high fees at our expense. It is most dishonourable conduct, and every "Co" should insert a clause such as you suggest to prevent financial injury to its co-operative business. Private nursing is now a very limited branch of work, owing to the terrible cost of living, so if nurses want to keep a "Co" together they must be fair and square.

Yours sincerely,

A Co NURSE.

## YOUTH v. EFFICIENCY AND EXPERIENCE.

To the Editor of THE BRITISH JOURNAL OF NURSING.

DEAR MADAM,—The cost of labour, including nursing, is now so high that people demand all they can get for their money, and youth, if it carries health and strength with it, is in demand. No one cares a button about efficiency or experience—which often means middle age. I speak feelingly, as I find nursing in any department most difficult to obtain now that I am 50. It is the age of the flapper and flapdoodle, the majority of whom do not know how to put in a good day's work, and don't mean to either. A lethal chamber for superfluous women would be a boon and a blessing.

Yours,

ONE WHO TAKES THE B.J.N.

## NOTICE.

We regret that we have been unable to award a prize this week, no paper of sufficient merit having been received?

## OUR PRIZE COMPETITION QUESTIONS.

December 1st.—What do you know of the different types of psoriasis, and of the constitutional and local treatment.

December 8th.—Why is the diet of a pregnant woman specially important? What general rules in regard to it would you advise her to observe, and what precautions would you suggest to her?

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