

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.

MENTAL NURSES DEPRIVED OF THEIR RIGHT TO A "PRESCRIBED" SYLLABUS OF TRAINING.

To the Editor of THE BRITISH JOURNAL OF NURSING.

DEAR MADAM,—I desire to thank you very much for your report on the discussion of the Report of the Mental Nursing Committee at the last meeting of the G.N.C. Other nursing papers have absolutely misrepresented statements I made at that meeting.

I think it is deplorable that the Syllabus of Training for Mental Nurses should be scrapped without any protest from the majority of members of the G.N.C., and mental nurses have the College Matrons and the Medical element on the Council to thank for this injustice who voted in favour of the General Nursing Syllabus being issued on the authority of the Council, and that it should be considered "advisory" instead of "obligatory."

Most mental nurses in training are organised, so that I feel justified in stating that the matter has not ended by the G.N.C. adopting the Report of the Chairman of the Mental Nursing Committee.

It would be interesting to know what nurses in training think of the member of the G.N.C. who stated "that the object of the State examination was that it should be known by the result of the examination whether nurses had been properly trained." This body is supposed to represent General Nurses. Nurses are trained for three years. They are to pay substantial fees before the "powers that be" decide that the training received has not been up to the standard required. I hope that the nursing electorate are content with their government! I feel more disgusted after each meeting I attend.

MAUD J. WIESE.

[The refusal of the new General Nursing Council to carry out the provisions of the Act in this particular, in so far as the General Part of the Register is concerned, deprives all the Supplementary Nurses of their right to "prescribed" training. Miss Wiese touches on the injustice to all Probationers, General and Special, when she makes it clear that they must work for three years and pay two examination fees before they are tested upon an advisory syllabus. We hope after the holidays that publicity will be given to this fatuous arrangement, and a wide demand upon the part of Probationers in training will be made for a "prescribed" compulsory scheme of training to fit them for the State Examination.—Ed.]

KERNELS FROM CORRESPONDENCE.

THE HAPLESS PUBLIC.

A Member of the Hapless Public.—"The nurses are not the only people who felt consternation at the Chapple "modification" becoming law. How about the hapless public? Doubtless we shall have to pay as much as for the genuine article."

[Certainly. Parliament and the Privy Council in their ignorance have decided to hall-mark dross and endanger human life. Every patient in engaging a private nurse must revert to the hospital certificate for comparative safety. The State Certificate is now so much waste paper.—Ed.]

THE CHAPPLE MODIFICATION.

From a Scottish Nurse.—"In communications to the Privy Council and Ministry of Health I stated that if this breach of faith was effected with the Registered Nurses, their fees paid should be returned to them on demand. For myself, I shall certainly get neither Badge nor Uniform."

"Nursing affairs discussed in Parliament are seldom reported in the *Glasgow Herald*. Would that Parliament sat in Scotland for two months in the year!"

NOTICE.

As we notified our readers, having published the Hon. Albinia Brodrick's letter as a plea for reform in the treatment of sick and injured prisoners, and a criticism from Councillor Beatrice Kent, we closed the correspondence, since which time we have received letters, the majority anonymous and of a very abusive character, from persons of both sides of Irish political opinion. All have been excluded. Our columns are at all times open to expressions of opinion on "Nursing politics," but not to Irish politics pure and simple.—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.

Forms should be carefully filled in and the names given for references from persons who have agreed to supply them.

OUR PRIZE COMPETITION QUESTIONS.

August 18th.—Describe the nursing of a patient after excision of the tongue.

August 25th.—What signs and symptoms would you expect in a case of gastric ulcer? Describe the nursing in such a case.

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