

We visualise Miss Clara D. Noyes, R.N., Director of the Nursing Service, American Red Cross, directing her thoroughly trained Legions on the "phone" if not on the spot. When will the British Red Cross command such a corps?

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.

INJURY TO MORAL STATUS.

To the Editor of THE BRITISH JOURNAL OF NURSING.

DEAR MADAM,—I shall be obliged if you will publish the following correspondence which has taken place between myself, and the Registrar of the General Nursing Council for England and Wales, omitting the identity of the person alluded to.

Now that highly qualified professional women are being circularised to pay the Retention Fee, so that their names may be retained upon the Register of Nurses, I am of opinion that we have the right to claim that our names shall not be placed upon a Register which includes a person guilty of theft.

As the General Nursing Council treated a former communication of mine with grave discourtesy, agreeing that it should "lie upon the table," thus declining even the courtesy of acknowledgement, I must decline to have further correspondence with that body, but I make this letter public in the hope that Registered Nurses of high moral standing will request the General Nursing Council to explain why they have retained the name of this criminal on the Register, and what they intend to do to remove it.

Our College of Nurses proposes a scheme of legal protection: would it be possible for our Council to deal with the G.N.C. in our interests in this matter? Surely such an injury to the moral status of Registered Nurses must not be permitted without protest.

Yours faithfully,
BEATRICE KENT,
President Registered Nurses'
Parliamentary Council.

COPY OF LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT OF THE REGISTERED NURSES' PARLIAMENTARY COUNCIL TO THE REGISTRAR G.N.C.

431, Oxford Street,
London, W.1

August 10th, 1926.

DEAR MADAM,—Will you inform me at your earliest convenience whether the Miss _____ whose name appears (No. _____) in the General Part of the Register of Nurses for 1926, issued under the authority of the General Nursing Council for England and Wales, is the same person as the Miss _____ who was arrested on October 9th, 1925, on a charge of stealing a hat from Messrs. Bourne & Hollingsworth, charged at Tottenham Court Police Station on October 10th, and who on October 13th was brought before the Magistrate at Great Marlborough Street Police Court, and was bound over for the sum of £5, placed on probation for twelve months, and ordered to pay £3 3s. costs.

I am,
Dear Madam,
Yours faithfully,
BEATRICE KENT,
President.

To The Registrar,
The General Nursing Council
for England and Wales.

COPY OF LETTER FROM THE REGISTRAR G.N.C. TO THE PRESIDENT REGISTERED NURSES' PARLIAMENTARY COUNCIL.

The General Nursing Council for
England and Wales,
20, Portland Place,
London, W. 1.

August 14th, 1926.

DEAR MADAM,—In reply to your letter of the 10th August, the Miss _____, whose name appears on the Register of the Council under No. _____, is one and the same person as the Miss _____ referred to in your letter.

Yours faithfully,
(p.p., G.D.) MARIAN S. RIDDELL,
Registrar.

Miss Beatrice Kent,
President, Registered Nurses' Parliamentary Council,
431, Oxford Street, London, W.1.

DEATH BY MISADVENTURE.

To the Editor of THE BRITISH JOURNAL OF NURSING.

DEAR MADAM,—I was very glad to read your comment on the sad case of the wrong administration of a drug to a patient, and quite agree with you that in the administration of dangerous drugs more than one person should check them before use, and the same applies to the counting of sponges and instruments. For the protection of the patient, and, in the latter case, for the protection of the surgeon, and the member of the nursing staff concerned also, this is most important as a routine practice. An error made in such a case may mean the death of a patient, and as you say, even with care powers of observation may be in abeyance when the human mechanism is over-strained, and moreover when a nurse is working at top speed.

I know that in some hospitals the rule of checking by a second person is observed, but not in all by any means.

Yours faithfully,
REGISTERED NURSE.

KERNELS FROM CORRESPONDENCE.

Mrs. Mary Sutton-Phelan, New York.—"This is a glorious occasion to write to you, when a dream has become a reality—the British College of Nurses, that our great leaders have won for us—may we be worthy of them, and prove our gratitude. . . I was so delighted and enthusiastic I made application for Foundation Fellowship and sent £2 2s. subscription through Miss Isabel Macdonald at once, as I want to be among the first applicants."

Miss Mary M. Roberts, Editor "The American Journal of Nursing," writes.—"These must be thrilling days for you. . . Miss Gladys Stephenson has been stimulating us all to renewed interest in matters international, and to even keener interest in the affairs of our British friends. May the new College grow in beauty, and fulfil the hopes and ideals of Mrs. Fenwick and yourself (Miss Breay)."

Miss Alice Torr, F.B.C.N., R.N., writes from Toronto—"I have just returned from Ottawa, where I have been attending the Convention of the Canadian Nurses' Association, and there heard one of the delegates speak of the Munificent Gift. We had a most wonderful Convention, nearly 750 nurses registering. Many had come three thousand miles. . . I do hope we shall be able to institute a 'Travelling Scholarship' in our own College, so that our representative may be present at these Conventions."

[There is every hope when nurses have joined the British College of Nurses in sufficient numbers, that Travelling Scholarships will be instituted.—ED.]

PRIZE COMPETITION QUESTION FOR NOVEMBER.

Give a brief account of the Symptoms of Acute Rheumatism, and mention the sequelae. What are the special nursing points and what treatment have you been directed to carry out?

[previous page](#)

[next page](#)