

## 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.*

## PRACTICAL DEVICES.

To the Editor of THE BRITISH JOURNAL OF NURSING.

DEAR MADAM,—I was very pleased to see in our JOURNAL for May the illustrated page of practical devices. I am always looking out for these, but comparatively seldom find anything. It is very curious that Nurses who are constantly in contact with conditions in which such devices are needed for the saving of pain, and for proper treatment so seldom devise practical appliances to deal with these conditions, or is it that they *do* devise them but do not make them public?

Anyway, if that is the reason I hope they will not be so modest in the future as they have been in the past, for what is of use to one nurse in her work must also be of use to her colleagues. It is the basis of professional good feeling, indeed it is, in a sense, an obligation of honour, to share knowledge with other members of the same profession, and, now that nursing ranks as such, I hope we shall all take this view even if it means some trouble.

Therefore, let me appeal through the *B.J.N.* to nurses with inventive capacity to send to the Editor a description, or, better still, a sample of the device itself, and let you judge whether it is useful and of general interest, and, if so, then, as and when you can spare the space, I hope you will be good enough to let us know about it through the pages of the JOURNAL.

I am, Dear Madam,  
Yours faithfully,  
PROVINCIAL S.R.N.

## KERNELS FROM CORRESPONDENCE.

## DIPLOMA DAY

*From Miss E. L. Smith.*—"I was so dreadfully disappointed not to be sufficiently well to attend at the Hoare Memorial Hall on April 29th to receive my Diploma—but my doctor ordered me away into the quiet of the country, as my nervous system was entirely upset owing to the horrid accident which happened to me on March 17th; a small motor-car coming at a terrific pace crashed into me as I was cycling to visit my patients! I really felt *more* than anything else having missed taking my part in that wonderful day, April 29th, and could not keep back the tears while reading the account of it in THE BRITISH JOURNAL OF NURSING. It all seems so wonderful and inspiring, and it is a great joy to me to feel I belong to the British College of Nurses."

*From E. R. M.*—"I have been quite unable to do many things I have wanted to do, and I assure you that to be present on that memorable Diploma Day was one of my dearest wishes, but I have been much too ill to travel, or indeed, to leave the house for many months. So you see I have been quite unable to take even a small share in forwarding the splendid work of the College. However, I am extremely appreciative of the honour you have done me, and hope to remedy my very late start before long. I have felt all along that the College Diplomas can do more than anything to improve the position of properly qualified Nurses. No one doubts but that there are many 'quacks' in the Nursing profession, as indeed there are in every other. I consider that the Diplomas 'hall-mark' as it were, the people who possess them, and it remains only to get the public to appreciate this and to ensure that they are only granted to people worthy of them."

*From a Foundation Member.*—"I must just write to say how much I enjoyed 'Our Day'; it really seemed too good to be true that at last we have our own College, and not a 'Limited Company.' It was a red-letter day in our history, and I, with others, am eagerly looking forward to seeing our new House. I think the Diplomas are worth the first place in any room; they are well planned and add so much by having the names of so many pioneers on them. I wish our College the very best of success, and all our Committee and President."

*From Miss M. C. Bevan, M.B.C.N.*—"My beautiful Diploma arrived here quite safely, and I am writing to thank you very much for it. It is a great joy, and I shall have it nicely framed and hung up; it will indeed be a treasured possession. My only regret is that I did not receive it from the hands of the President. I was sorry I could not be with you on the 29th! I am so glad her name is on my S.R.N. Certificate as well! I am also so glad that Mrs. Bedford Fenwick is our President, and that she is at last seeing and doing some reaping after all her faithful sowing on our behalf."

*From Miss P. M. L. (Cannes), Foundation Fellow.*—"I am writing to you on behalf of my friend and myself to thank you for our copies of THE BRITISH JOURNAL OF NURSING which were forwarded to us from home. We were very interested to read all about Diploma Day, and we very much regret not having been with you. In the event of Foundation Fellows being absent, do you send them their Diplomas, or do we have to wait until we happen to be in town? We do not expect to be in England again until the autumn at the earliest. We think it is wonderful all that you are doing for the British College of Nurses, and we all ought to be, and I am sure are, extremely grateful to you."

*From Miss Janet Woodcock.*—"I thank you all very, very much for all I heard yesterday afternoon, and for all that has been done in such a wonderful way for Nurses; words cannot express the feeling of the receiving of the Diploma. I can but say thank you very much the President, Vice-Presidents, and all others who have done so much for Nurses."

*From Miss J. M. Archer, F.B.C.N. (Cape Town).*—"It will soon be Diploma Day—and I am sorry this letter will reach you so long after the ceremony. However, I shall think of you all at Westminster—I do wish I could be present. I thank you for THE BRITISH JOURNAL OF NURSING which has arrived so regularly. I read every word of it, I think. It is a link with the Home Country, and helps—oh, such a lot! I am at present Night Sister—as my district is very small at present, I have had only two patients, but we are hoping to be widely known soon. The coloured race is very interesting to study. The black is a big grown-up child, with adult instincts, but baby ways."

*From Miss Mary M. Roberts, R.N., Editor of "The American Journal of Nursing."*—"How I wish I might have been present at your Diploma Day, for I am sure the ceremonial must have been beautiful and impressive.

"It would give us great pleasure to publish a brief account of it in *The American Journal of Nursing*, together with a photograph, if you can furnish us with the text and the picture. Of course, we might rewrite the account which will doubtless be published in your own Journal, but there is always the danger of a wrong emphasis or an obscure impression when material passes through a poorly-informed mind. Events seem to move so rapidly with you just now that I plead guilty to being poorly informed even though I do read every number of your Journal with keen interest.

"I am taking a deep interest in all that you accomplish for the advancement of nursing."

(In replying to Miss Roberts she was informed that Mrs. Fenwick has preserved a file of *The American Journal of Nursing* since its first issue, and hopes to place it suitably bound in our library of THE BRITISH JOURNAL OF NURSING when arranged).

## THE GIFT OF SECOND SIGHT.

*J. V. C. writes* :—"I was interested in the article on 'The Gift of Second Sight' in THE BRITISH JOURNAL OF NURSING. I wish 'Lochiel' had told some of her evil dreams, so that we might know if she gained the knowledge of what actually happened.

"You remember the old Sunday school hymn 'For we know the Lord of Glory, Always sees what children do, And is writing now the story, Of our thoughts and actions too.'"

"The story of what we think and do is embedded in wood, in stone, and in fine metals. When one with the requisite faculty of psychometry comes along, he or she can sense it, and record it, so the hymn is true.

"One theory to account for hauntings is, that given the necessary conditions, and the receptive spectator, the whole scene and happenings are reproduced just as a scene in the cinema, a kind of astral film is unrolled. It is all very mysterious, wonderful and interesting."

## OUR PRIZE COMPETITION FOR JULY.

Give the signs, symptoms, nursing, and after-care of a case of pulmonary tuberculosis.

[previous page](#)

[next page](#)