

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.

A SEPARATE ESTABLISHMENT.

To the Editor of THE BRITISH JOURNAL OF NURSING.

DEAR MADAM,—With reference to your paragraph *re* North Middlesex Hospital, Edmonton, in February issue of THE BRITISH JOURNAL OF NURSING, page 30, kindly note that no patient of the name of Elizabeth Murray was under treatment in this Hospital, which is a Training School for Nurses.

She was in a separate establishment, namely, the Sick Wards of Edmonton House, where a number of chronic cases are kept under treatment.

Yours truly,

SPENCER MORT, Ch.M., M.D., F.R.S.Ed.,
Medical Superintendent and
Surgical Director.

North Middlesex Hospital,
Silver Street,
Upper Edmonton, N.18.

[The Sick Wards of Edmonton House, though apart from the North Middlesex Hospital are under the same Board of Guardians and Medical Superintendent, but, wherever they may be our opinion expressed last month holds good that it should be a cardinal rule that not less than two nurses should be on duty in a ward containing 22 beds.—ED.]

MISS MEYBOOM HAS A HAPPY TIME IN ENGLAND.

To the Editor of THE BRITISH JOURNAL OF NURSING.

DEAR MRS. BEDFORD FENWICK,—I feel a great wish to write you and I hope you will put my letter in your JOURNAL.

The first point is that I am so very surprised at the way in which your Royal Family give their interest to our profession.

First I had the honour of meeting Princess Arthur of Connaught, the President of the Royal British Nurses' Association, so charming, so simple and so interested, really she is an example to be very appreciated by all the British nurses. Then I had the great honour to be presented to your Queen at the United Services' Club. I was really quite surprised to see Her Majesty with just one lady-in-waiting, in a simple car, no question of any pretension, and how much she was interested in everything. She seems to be very clever, to have a talent for serious observation. It has been a great honour to me, and I will never forget Her Majesty's questions. I, who am so very much indebted to you all, who are so kind and full of hospitality to me, was delighted to be able to tell Her Majesty that I feel so happy in the clubhouse of the R.B.N.A., and of the kindness of so many of your matrons and equally so of matrons of the School nurses and Queen's nurses. It was all so charming.

Now, on a third occasion to have met at the Forum Club Reception the Princess Marie Louise, also so interested in nursing and so helpful in her advice to me about what to see, was an additional pleasure.

It was a very nice party and I was touched again at the kindness of everybody to me and the nice words of the President of the Club. I intend to send a letter to my

Dutch journals to tell them about everything also in this way. With kind regards.

Yours sincerely,

F. MEYBOOM.

194, Queen's Gate,
London, S.W.7.

[Miss Meyboom imbued with the international nursing spirit, has been a charming guest in our midst for the past few months. Soon her visit is to terminate, and it is pleasant to know that she has formed such happy opinions of our Nursing World—in which the Royal Family are taking so leading and helpful an interest. As an active member of the Dutch Nurses' Association let us hope we shall meet Miss Meyboom at Geneva in July—anyway *au revoir* and not *adieu*.—ED.]

KERNELS FROM CORRESPONDENCE.

WHY NOT A BROAD ARROW?

Home Sister, S.R.N., F.B.C.N.—"It is a fatal attitude for the General Nursing Council to take to retain persons guilty of theft on our State Register, when they have the power to remove criminals. Its decision on the Elizabeth Shand case means that in future no nurse thief, who has sentence delivered by a lenient Magistrate or Judge, and who is placed on probation, instead of being sent to prison (as a servant would be) can be removed from our Register, because our invertebrate Governing Body has established a precedent. Since the theft of Elizabeth Shand has been condoned three more nurses have been found guilty in Police Courts of shop-lifting and theft, and had they been registered the whole trio, I presume, would have been permitted to degrade the moral standard of our Register. I feel strongly on this matter, as cruel thefts have taken place in institutions in which I have worked—the innocent being suspected for the guilty, and suffering in consequence. Instead of the badge now obligatory on our State Uniform, may I suggest to the General Nursing Council the substitution of the Broad Arrow?"

OUR PROFESSIONAL ORGAN.

F.B.C.N., Scotland.—"It is only since I became a Fellow of the British College of Nurses that I have read from cover to cover our official organ, the *B.J.N.* What a loss to thousands of nurses who have never been encouraged to read it in their training schools. It was never taken in mine. That our subscription to the *B.C.N.* includes a free copy of this professional paper, will, in a short time, have a very marked influence in the Nursing World. I thank all those who prepare and send it to us."

Hospital Matron.—"I attended the Nursing Conference convened by the Labour Party, and much enjoyed listening to free speech thereat. Mrs. Sidney Webb, a very remarkable woman, gave us sound advice, which I am glad to note The British College of Nurses has anticipated, by standing firmly for freedom for Registered Nurses. Every Fellow and every Member should get her colleagues to join, then we shall be forceful for good. I shall hope to attend the first Diploma Day on April 29th. I am so glad it is to be held at the Church House in the great City of Westminster, and close to our revered National Abbey."

GRATIFYING INFORMATION.

Miss Elizabeth B. Ross.—"Very many thanks for your kind letter with its very gratifying information of my election as a Fellow of the British College of Nurses. I came here recently as Superintendent of the Olean General Hospital, Olean, New York, hence the delay in replying to your letter.

"You probably know that the Millbank Foundation is putting on the only rural Health Demonstration work in the world in this vicinity, and as a result we are attracting many international visitors.

"I thoroughly enjoyed my work at Columbia University, and also the life at International Home."

PRIZE COMPETITION QUESTION FOR APRIL.

Describe the Nursing of a case of Influenza. Mention the dangers to be specially guarded against, and what may be done to avoid them.

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