

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.

NEW COUNCILLORS RETURN THANKS.

Expression of Thanks from Miss Kathleen Smith.

To the Editor of THE BRITISH JOURNAL OF NURSING.

DEAR MADAM,—May I be allowed through the medium of your paper to offer my sincere thanks to all those Fellows of the British College of Nurses who were good enough to give me their vote at the past election of Fellows to serve on the Council?

I feel very honoured at the confidence placed in me, and it will be my earnest endeavour to serve the British College of Nurses to the very best of my ability.

I am, Madam,

Yours faithfully,

KATHLEEN A. SMITH,
S.R.N., F.B.C.N.

West End Hospital for Nervous Diseases,
Gloucester Gate, Regent's Park, N.W.1.

Expression of Thanks from Miss Elizabeth Kennedy.

To the Editor of THE BRITISH JOURNAL OF NURSING.

DEAR MADAM,—I wish to thank all those Fellows who so kindly gave me their support at the recent Election. I need hardly say how proud and pleased I am to have been elected on to the Council, and I assure them I will do my utmost to further the interests of the College at every possible opportunity.

Your obedient servant,

ELIZABETH KENNEDY.

St. Bartholomew's Hospital, London, E.C.

KERNELS FROM CORRESPONDENCE.

Echoes from the Congress.

Friendships are Formed which Endure.

Dr. Helen MacMurchy, Chief Division of Child Welfare, Ottawa, writes:—

"My dear Mrs. Bedford Fenwick:

"I thought perhaps that you might like to have a set of the armlets used at Montreal, and so I begged a set for you from Miss Beith. I am enclosing them to you herewith. It is not a complete set!

"We all missed you very much and we often spoke of you. It must be a great satisfaction and pleasure to you to think that you were the Founder of such an illustrious body, and one that is likely to prove no small strength not only to efforts for the professional and international improvement of nurses, but to the cause of peace throughout the world, for friendships are formed at such a meeting which endure.

"With kindest regards and best wishes."

"The Watchword."

One of the older generation writes:—

"DEAR MRS. FENWICK,—I am writing to thank you for the Watchword in the BRITISH JOURNAL OF NURSING. It is very helpful, and I hope it will help those now in the full powers of work, to give real good service. One consolation in being old, is to have lived long enough to see things finished or greatly advanced, which we saw the early days of; and I am sure you must feel comforted to see the results so fine, of your own work for the nurses; and nurses working in all the branches they are now. I think it is wonderful. I think you will like to hear we send our BRITISH JOURNAL to Australia; we only sent one, as we did not think a mere man would want it always; but he wrote: 'I miss my Nurses' Journal. Where is it? More please.' So we send it.

"Thanking you for your work."

Miss M. E. Misner, F.B.C.N., writes:—"I am en route from the Saguenay to Montreal and Miss Morrison went back to Fort William a week ago, after we had had a wonderful week at the Congress at Montreal. We were keenly disappointed that you were unable to attend this tremendous gathering of which you are the illustrious Founder . . . It was the largest Congress and you would have gloried in it. Your name was on everyone's lips, and on every side were expressions of sorrow that you could not be with us. . . . Miss Breay was a terribly overworked person, but she stood it nobly and came through all with flying colours, and we were so proud of her, but disappointed at being allowed so little of her time. . . . She was tendered a distinct ovation one evening. She will tell you all about the rest of the people but of course not of herself."

Miss Helen M. McMurrick (late French Flag Nursing Corps) writes from Toronto:—"It is fourteen years since I last saw you, and yet I can honestly say that in spite of this long interval, the one disappointment at the Congress was not seeing you. I wonder if you realise how much your kindness to us while overseas was appreciated. To me another note of sadness was the absence of Miss F. M. Shaw, who was my teacher and tutor before I succeeded her as such at the Montreal General Hospital, but she died as she would have wished, in harness. Of all those whom I heard speak at the Congress, Miss Larsson of Norway stirred my soul the most . . . her personality was most attractive."

Overalls versus Aprons.

Private Nurse writes:—"I should be grateful for the opinion of my colleagues on the practical value of white overalls versus aprons. I was 'brought up' on aprons, and now belong to an Association which compels the use of overalls. I find them expensive to wear and to wash, as to be decent one must wear a gown or slip underneath—which all nurses do not do."

Medicine, Surgery and Midwifery.

Sister Tutor writes:—"I was glad to note your expression of opinion on the inclusion of midwifery for 'complete' nurse training. The medical profession comprises the three sections—medicine, surgery and midwifery—and the nursing profession should follow on the same scientific basis. Here, I regret to say, there are no facilities for nurses to study obstetrics and a very limited sphere of gynaecology. Do press this demand."

[See report in "The Midwife" Supplement of the action of the National Nurses' Association of China.—Ed.]

A Valentine Society.

F.B.C.N. writes:—"I do wish Mrs. Willoughby Hodgson would start a Valentine Society. Personally, after seeing her beautiful collection of valentines, I should thrill to have some 'love token' from friends, not necessarily from sentimental admirers. We have much sloppy sentiment in these days but little romance."

[The Editor proposes to place this suggestion before Mrs. Willoughby Hodgson.]

NOTICES.

Those requiring extra copies of THE BRITISH JOURNAL OF NURSING for August and the subsequent months, should place their orders at once with the Manager, B.J.N., 39, Portland Place, London, W.1., as there is sure to be a large demand for these issues containing a full report of the Meetings, at Montreal, of the International Council and Congress of Nurses. (Price 7d.)

PRIZE COMPETITION QUESTION FOR SEPTEMBER.

Say what you know about Yellow Fever and Plague.

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