

## 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.*

## NATIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL RELATIONSHIPS.

DEAR EDITOR.—“Time flies so rapidly that before I have realised it I have been at home for three weeks and have not had the opportunity previously of sending you a letter to thank you for your very kind editorial, and for honouring me in the BRITISH JOURNAL OF NURSING.

It is very interesting to me to see how closely our National and International Relationships are being cemented and how we are seeing the very small and insignificant differences which keep us apart.

As I have gone from one country to the other I find that we all have similar problems and I also find that most of these problems are being solved differently, but the end result is achieving almost the same goal.

I have grown much more humble as I have listened to groups of men and women discussing and arguing about ways and means by which a single result can be brought about, and I am impressed with the thought that we waste a great deal of time on non-essentials, putting stress on devices and not on issues and when we finally try to sort out the issues they are very few indeed, and on these we rarely disagree. I attended one or two Sessions of the League of Nations and it seemed to me a terrible thing that so much time was wasted in discussing disarmaments when we have already decided that we do not believe in and do not want War.

My whole trip has been a wonderful lesson to me and I am humble in the remembrance of it, and at the same time stimulated with a broader and better, and I hope higher and more spiritual International point of view.

It was a great privilege for me to meet you in England, I have heard of you and the contribution you have made to International and British National Nursing ever since I first became a student nurse. English Nursing as the Mother of Modern Nursing means much to all of us, and we look with pride upon its great leaders and are happy to be admitted into a personal relationship, made possible by such visits as I have recently made to England.

Everyone was so cordial to me that I am very happy and stimulated, and hope I will be better prepared in future to help the International visitors who come to us from other countries.”

Yours cordially,  
EFFIE J. TAYLOR.

Newhaven, Conn. U.S.A.

## SHOULD THIEVES BE RETAINED ON THE STATE REGISTER?

To the Editor of THE BRITISH JOURNAL OF NURSING.

DEAR MADAM,—I read with very great interest, if a little dismay, the replies to your enterprising correspondent “F.B.C.N.’s.” question to colleagues, “Should Thieves be retained on the State Register?” Dismay because the attitude of mind and emphatic criticism of the G.N.C. prove that injustice, and contempt for the ethical standards of the nursing profession by that body is productive of a very undisciplined spirit in our ranks—which is greatly to be deplored—but is not surprising. We need to encourage the cultured girls of the very best quality to adopt Nursing as a profession—to learn that there are women of criminal tendencies retained on our State Register is fatal. Only this week I heard a sick friend decline to have a nurse in her house. “No,” she said, “it isn’t fair on my maids,” and nothing would move her. She had been greatly shocked

by reading the Protest from Registered Nurses in the *Daily Mail* against the retention of thieves on our Register.

Yours truly,  
A HOSPITAL MATRON.

## KERNELS FROM CORRESPONDENCE.

## In Memoriam.—Richard Whieldon Barnett.

Miss Beatrice Kent writes: As one of those who had the privilege of being present at the Service in Christ Church, Albany Street, on October 22nd, I should like to say how greatly impressed I was. The Order of the Service was perfect and therefore *beautiful*. Every part of it was admirably chosen, but I was particularly struck with the choice of Psalm XV. No doubt, the good man whose memory we were honouring, made that his rule of life, he certainly lived up to it. The large and reverent congregation in its representative character, bore silent testimony to the honour in which he was universally held. Major Sir Richard Barnett was a friend to many, but to the Nurses of Great Britain he was, in a notable way, a true and loyal friend, whom we shall greatly miss.

## The Danger of Dirty Nails.

A Public School Matron writes: “Why are boys not taught to keep their nails clean and properly cut and trimmed? I have had the greatest difficulty to impress upon ‘my boys’ the necessity for this, and the danger to health which I feel sure arises from its neglect. Noses, ears, throats, I feel sure, are often infected by dirty nails—and it is not a matter for ridicule, in which Masters often indulge. ‘Paws’ should be constantly inspected as well as teeth. We should then hear less of mastoids and pink eye and ‘common colds.’”

And why should bus conductors have such filthy hands? When in Italy lately I noticed how well kept and beautifully shaped were the taxi-drivers’ hands.”

## An Expression of Thanks.

Miss Georgia Bryton, Founder of the Florence Nightingale Institute of Honorables, writes: “I desire to thank you and the editors for the wonderful report which you published concerning the ceremony of Miss Jones having placed the Institute’s wreath on Miss Nightingale’s grave. I note your reference to the omission of nursing by specific mention as one of the occupations which are eligible for the Institute’s testimonials. You were correct in assuming that nursing was covered in the general reference, but it was an inexcusable blunder which will be remedied as soon as possible, and it is incomprehensible that your thought has not earlier occurred to anybody here. I rather think that we Americans must be growing stale in our cerebral qualities, and should yield to the quickened perceptions of our British friends.”

## NOTICE.

## THE STATE REGISTERED UNIFORM AND HAT.

The General Nursing Council for England and Wales proposes to issue shortly a fourth edition of the Schedule of instructions to Nurses with regard to the Uniform and Badge. Registered Nurses should note that there are several amendments with regard to the style of the Registered Uniform and the Registered Uniform Hat.

The Council has also issued a revised list of hospitals approved as Training Schools for Nurses.

## PRIZE COMPETITION QUESTION FOR JANUARY, 1931.

What precautions must a Nurse, attending a midwifery case, take to prevent puerperal fever, and what are her duties if she has been in attendance upon a patient suffering from puerperal fever?

[previous page](#)

[next page](#)