

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.

The Editor has received many congratulatory letters on the "Nightingale Week" issue of THE BRITISH JOURNAL OF NURSING, and begs to thank her correspondents for their kind appreciation. As the issue is nearly sold out, those requiring extra copies of the August number should make early application to the Manager, BRITISH JOURNAL OF NURSING Office, 39, Portland Place, London, W.1. Price 7d.

KERNELS FROM CORRESPONDENCE.

Nightingale Week.

Miss R. E. Darbyshire, University College Hospital, writes: "I have just returned from my holiday and have been reading with the greatest pleasure the report of the Nightingale Week in the August number of THE BRITISH JOURNAL OF NURSING.

It was indeed a wonderful week and I am so glad to have the splendid record of it that has appeared in the JOURNAL. I am quite sure it was an inspiration to all of us, and you must have been very proud to feel that the arrangements worked so smoothly and the organisation was such a success.

Will you please accept my personal thanks for so many pleasant meetings and conferences. I think we all feel very happy about the future of the Fund and realise that with its splendid start it ought to realise all our hopes."

Mr. Ernest Swift, Secretary-General of the League of Red Cross Societies, writes from Paris: "The August issue of THE BRITISH JOURNAL OF NURSING will create an excellent atmosphere for the Florence Nightingale International Foundation wherever it is read. The reports of the meetings are presented in an admirable manner, and will be read with interest in the nursing profession in general. . . . The next issue of the Review and Information Bulletin of the League will contain an article about the Florence Nightingale Week."

Miss M. G. Serton writes from Utrecht, Holland: "I hereby thank you ever so much for the most beautiful account of the Florence Nightingale Week in THE BRITISH JOURNAL OF NURSING. I have sent in my report to Nosokomos. In the beginning of September I hope to inspire every one here with the same enthusiasm towards our National Florence Nightingale Memorial, as you inspired us with when in England."

Miss Emily Dinnie writes: "In the August number of the B.J.N. I have read with the greatest interest and delight the thrilling account of the recent 'Nightingale Week' in London. What a great thought on the part of the promoters, and some of us can well imagine who the leaders were, and in whose brain germinated the idea of such a glorious week.

I am asking that some copies of the B.J.N. for August be sent to friends, and only wish I could afford more.

Incidentally, I wonder how many people outside our profession—or inside for that matter—know of the great work for Peace being done through the collaboration of the Nurses of the World in the I.C.N. Does the Editor of Headway know about 'Nightingale Week'? I wonder!

Presently, I suppose, the rank and file of our Profession

will be told in what way they can help in bringing the proposed Memorial to a successful issue.

Wishing you every blessing in your great work of high endeavour and continual vigilance for the welfare of Trained Nurses."

Good Luck to Nightingale Foundation.

Miss E. G. Shipton, M.B.C.N., writes: "The JOURNAL for August was, I think, more than usually interesting, and I shall keep it as a souvenir and record of an inspiring movement. I expect I am only one of many thousands to wish Good Luck to the Nightingale International Foundation."

A Paradise of the Pacific.

Miss M. Harvey, M.B.C.N., Kanai, Hawaiian Islands, writes: "I am rather ashamed for being so negligent to you and the Society of which I am a proud member, but I have been quite ill for some months and I was resting in Honolulu. Your Christmas Card was beautiful and I did so enjoy it. I am quite recovered in health now and have accepted a position as Head of a 'Preventorium' on the Island of Kanai, one of the Hawaiian Group, we are just 100 miles north of Honolulu.

This Preventorium was generously donated and is kept up by a Mr. Wilcox, a wealthy Plantation owner. We have the care of some 50 children and we train them in the care and hygiene of their bodies by teaching them how to eat normal food—baths and outdoor life. We have no less than 10 nationalities—Hawaiians, Chinese, Japanese, Porto Ricans, Portuguese, and mixed races, and some of them are rather difficult to handle, but we are making progress, if rather slowly.

This Island is most historical; it received its first white visitor on January 18th, 1778, Captain James Cook; and it was also on here that Kingsford Smith and party landed, and took off again in the 'Southern Cross' on his famous flight from San Francisco to Australia. There is so much about Kanai you really have no right to expect of a tropical isle. You have towering cliffs, stupendous gorges, ancient caves of Hawaiian worship, and deep canyons flashing with colours and laced with waterfalls. Nature has played a lavish hand here, splashing her colours here and there that it would be impossible to transfer to a picture. You see the real life of the Hawaiian, they have not been spoiled by the tourist, and they are a delightful, simple and loving race.

The Island grows on you, its peace, lazy rest-detachment from the noises of city life, and the longer you stay the more the atmosphere grows on you.

Gardenias are sold for five cents a piece; it's almost impossible to believe such an exquisite flower is almost given away; and besides we have the beautiful Hibiscus Bougainvillea—pink and yellow shower trees. How one can rave. All I can say is, come along yourselves and enjoy a taste of this 'Paradise of the Pacific.' Like myself, you will, too, be thrilled.

Hope this letter will be of interest to you all. The world is so full of depression, I thought I would forget it and write of something that would help us all remember there is the sun shining down in Hawaii.

With kind regards to my fellow members."

We regret that of the Papers submitted none were selected for the Prize.

PRIZE COMPETITION FOR OCTOBER.

What are the common causes of oedema of the legs? How can relief be administered?

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