

1934-1935.

We've reached the parting of the ways,
Saddest of many years,
How often were your golden days
Defaced by cruel tears.

It seemed that luck set out with you
Good company to lend,
But he was seen about with you
Too seldom in the end!

May he for whom you've laid the trail
Attempt no rash display,
But that his honest team prevail
"Ca canny" all the way.

C. B. M.

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 VALUE OF PRESTIGE.

To the Editor of THE BRITISH JOURNAL OF NURSING.

DEAR MADAM,—Through a daughter who is a Registered Nurse, I have had my attention directed through your journal to the question of more publicity and, may I add, prestige, for the Nursing Profession. We have two daughters—one has qualified for the medical profession, and one is a Registered Nurse.

When the elder passed her medical exams., her success was published in the *Times* and other papers, much to our gratification and that of her friends, from whom she received congratulations.

The fact that our second daughter had, after strenuous work, passed the Final of the General Nursing Council and become a Registered Nurse, appeared to be of no significance whatever. She was notified of the fact, certainly, but apparently no publicity was considered necessary by the Examining Body.

Why? Both girls had studied hard and paid their examination fees; the one received honourable recognition and was made to realise her professional status, the second received no such encouragement. To their mother, this is very significant evidence that nursing as a profession has failed to attain the standard it deserves, and accounts, no doubt, for the fact that highly educated girls are not attracted to it in sufficient numbers, as they might be if the public were encouraged to value its prestige. I thank you for giving publicity to this important matter.

"A MOTHER."

[We have received several letters on this question from Registered Nurses supporting this view, but all shun publicity.—Ed.]

THE GRENFELL CALENDAR.

To the Editor of THE BRITISH JOURNAL OF NURSING.

DEAR MADAM,—I have just received from our Press Cutting Agency the splendid advertisement which you have given to our Grenfell calendar. I want to tell you how very much this is appreciated and what a tremendous help it will be to our funds, for I am perfectly certain when your readers see this they will give us orders. The profit on these calendars goes to the Labrador work and so you will understand how extremely grateful we are for the help you have given us by publishing such a splendid account of it.

Yours sincerely,

K. SPALDING,
Hon. Secretary.

CONGRATULATIONS FROM THE NURSES OF CHINA.

Nurses' Association of China,
Nanking. October 13th, 1934.

Mrs. Bedford Fenwick, S.R.N.,
Chairman, I.C.N. Florence Nightingale
Memorial Committee.

DEAR MRS. FENWICK.—Please accept my hearty thanks for the copy of the BRITISH JOURNAL OF NURSING, containing the Report of the Inaugural Meeting of the Florence Nightingale International Foundation, which you so kindly sent to me. I have read it with the greatest interest and delight, and send congratulations from the Nurses' Association of China and best wishes for the success of the work of the Foundation. With kindest personal greetings to you,

I am, Sincerely yours,

VICTORIA PON YEN,
President, Nurses Association of China.

KERNELS FROM CORRESPONDENCE.

A Fine Report.

State Registered Nurse writes: "On the recommendation of THE BRITISH JOURNAL OF NURSING, I obtained the Annual Report of the Chief Medical Officer of the Ministry of Health. It is indeed packed full of interesting information, and information which both nurses and midwives should possess and assimilate. I was especially interested in the Section on Maternity and Child Welfare."

"Many a Mickle makes a Muckle"

An N.C.N. Delegate writes: "No other day than May 12th can be Florence Nightingale Day, but that is no reason why we nurses must give our silver mites *only* on that date. May I suggest that a Thanksgiving Box be available in Nurses' Homes and elsewhere into which we may drop our gifts at will, and that the box be opened on the Birthday of our patron saint, and the contents announced annually. Thus we should clash with no other organisation appealing for funds in her name. Do not let us forget that we give in gratitude to a cause Florence Nightingale would approve—Nursing Education. Personally as I am a Sister I intend to drop in twopence every time I receive my salary, and I hope my nurses will drop in a penny—"Many a Mickle makes a Muckle."

PROCEEDINGS OF THE INTERNATIONAL CONGRESS OF NURSES, 1933.

We are informed by Mlle. Chaptal—President of the International Council of Nurses, 1929-33—that the volumes containing the Proceedings of the International Congress of Nurses, Paris-Brussels, July, 1933, in English, will be ready very shortly. They can be obtained from the French Headquarters, 6, rue François 1er, Paris, by sending a postal order or a cheque for 25 French francs, in the name of the President of the Association des Infirmières Diplômées de l'Etat Français (postal cheques, 700.01 Paris).

OUR PRIZE COMPETITION QUESTION FOR JANUARY, 1935.

What do you understand by the term "Endemic"? How is infection spread in the following infectious diseases—Cerebro-Spinal Fever, Enteric Fever, Measles and Tuberculosis?

LAST WORDS FOR 1934.

The Shepherds sing; and shall we silent be?
My God, no Hymne for Thee?
My soul's a shepherd too; a flock it feeds
Of thoughts and words and deeds.—George Herbert.