

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 FESTIVAL OF JEANNE MANCE.

To the Editor of THE BRITISH JOURNAL OF NURSING.

MY DEAR EDITOR,—THE BRITISH JOURNAL OF NURSING is always eagerly read the moment it arrives, and I was very much flattered to see the honoured position given in its pages to my little article on the "Festival of Jeanne Mance." It was very good of you to speak of it so appreciatively, and you may be interested to know that the Reverend Soeur Allard, Hospitalière-en-chef at the Hôtel Dieu, has herself translated it into French. This translation will appear in an early issue of the Journal, and we hope will be a source of pleasure to the many members of our national association who speak French only.

Yours very sincerely,

ETHEL JOHNS, Reg.N.,
Editor and Business Manager,
The Canadian Nurse.

SMOKE AND AVIATION.

To the Editor of THE BRITISH JOURNAL OF NURSING.

MADAM,—I was interested to read the letter from "Air-Minded Nurse" in your August issue, and I should like to assure her that my Society has been very active in drawing public attention to the danger to airmen as a result of the smoke-poll which overhangs our towns and urban areas. If she would care to send me her name and address I shall be glad to let her have a complimentary copy of our "Smoke and Aviation," which is the report of a special conference we held in London this summer.

We much appreciate the support indicated by this letter, and should be grateful for the interest and help of all nurses in our work. This is not only a great social reform, but is also, because it is leading to purer air, more sunlight, and increasing cleanliness, a health reform with which all nurses should sympathise.

Yours faithfully,

ARNOLD MARSH,

General Secretary, National Smoke Abatement Society,
36, King Street,
Manchester 2.

A FEW QUESTIONS MERITING DISCUSSION.

To the Editor of the BRITISH JOURNAL OF NURSING.

DEAR MADAM,—Referring to Miss Thompson's letter published in the August issue of THE BRITISH JOURNAL OF NURSING, I fully agree that all paying patients should be nursed entirely by State Registered Nurses. With regard to her objection to nurses helping to sell flags in aid of their hospital, surely it helps them to realise how necessary it is to help on the financial side, and gives them a chance to do their own bit, and what a vast sum is collected on Alexandra Day. Until we have a few more millionaires, and all our hospitals are endowed, there seems no other way of giving all classes of people in the street the opportunity to help them. I find the poor people are ever ready with their pennies. I see good-looking young people and V.A.D.s are supposed to be the most successful; there I differ again—being only one of the ancient ones—yet I am happy to say on more than two occasions I have collected the most.

E. EDITH FOWLER.

Salisbury House,
St. Thomas' Hill, Canterbury.

[The point raised was whether the selling of flags in the street for hospitals should be expected of nurses as a duty which they may be called upon by their superior officers to perform. If undertaken it should be entirely of free will on the part of the nurse, and in off-duty time.—Ed.]

KERNELS FROM CORRESPONDENCE.

Nibbling at Nursing.

"Sister Tutor" writes: "We Sister Tutors have to thank the *B.J.N.* for the explanatory article on 'Women Orderlies in the L.C.C. Hospitals.' In no other journal have I seen the truth from a professional point of view put forth.

"One of the greatest dangers which will result from giving domestics a false status as orderlies and a smattering of nursing will be the increase of bogus nurses employed by institutions sending out such 'helps' to the sick, charging a £2 2s. fee and paying these ignorant girls 25s. a week. Hundreds of such women are already let loose on the unfortunate public—and the poor in some special hospitals under State control. Nibbling at nursing by all and sundry is having a disastrous effect on the economic security of the nursing profession. What gets me is that I have to pay rates and taxes to promote professional conditions in State hospitals of which I conscientiously and most strongly disapprove."

In touch with the dear Homeland.

Mrs. Hedley Smith, F.B.C.N., writes from London, Ontario: "Each month I look forward to the arrival of THE BRITISH JOURNAL OF NURSING. To us, who are many miles away, it is the link that binds and joins us together, keeping us in touch with the dear homeland."

Well worth it.

Miss M. Willdon, M.B.C.N., Matron, Basutoland Nursing Service, Botsabelo, Maseru, Basutoland, writes: "Last month I had ten days' holiday and went for a trip to the Victoria Falls. I have long wanted to see them, but it has not been possible to get leave at the right time of the year. This time my luck has been in. I am simply thrilled when I think of all I saw. It is a marvellous sight to see a river one and quarter miles wide plunge into an immense chasm 400 ft. deep. The roar is terrific and can be heard for miles. I had three days at the Falls—the rest of the time was taken up by the journey, so I felt rather tired by the time I got back. Still it was well worth while."

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PRIZE COMPETITION QUESTION FOR OCTOBER.

What would you require for the following treatments? Give in detail the technique you would employ in carrying them out (a) Gavage Feed; (b) Application of Leeches (c) Dry Cupping.

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