

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.

THANKS FROM MISS LITTLEBOY.

London Hospital,
Whitechapel, E.1.
November 24th, 1936.

DEAR EDITOR,—Will you allow me through the medium of THE BRITISH JOURNAL OF NURSING to send my thanks to all those associations who so kindly gave me their support in the recent election. I am honoured that I was elected to the vacancy for a Vice-President, and I will do my best to be helpful to the National Council of Nurses during my term of office. We all have a particularly busy year before us, and I know how anxious everybody must be that the Quadrennial Congress of the International Council of Nurses, to be held in London in 1937, should be a very great success.

Thank you so much for the beautiful flowers that were given to me at the meeting on November 18th.

Yours sincerely,
MAY LITTLEBOY.

FLORENCE NIGHTINGALE INTERNATIONAL FOUNDATION.

The Editor has received the following letter from a student in Charleston, U.S.A., to be forwarded to a student in an English Hospital. She publishes it in the hope that it may interest more than one Nurse, who may be inspired to dress a doll as suggested, to help to maintain internationally the nursing spirit in the F.N.I. Foundation.

Roper Hospital,
Charleston, S.C.
U.S.A.

DEAR FELLOW STUDENT,

I am a member of the senior class of the Roper Hospital School of Nursing in Charleston, South Carolina, U.S.A.

Each year the senior class select a project as collateral work with their Journal Club. This year we have selected as our project the exchange of a doll dressed in the uniform of a school from countries belonging to the I.C.N. This collection to be sold and proceeds to be contributed to the Florence Nightingale International Foundation in London. I would be very pleased to know if you would be interested in exchanging a doll dressed in your school uniform for a doll dressed in the uniform of Roper Hospital.

We are trying to have these dolls about 12 inches in height, and knowing that the duty on imported toys is high, and that we will not be allowed to pay it on this side, we plan to value them at about one dollar American money.

I would be delighted to correspond with one or more of your students. I believe that we would find much of mutual interest, as we are striving for the same goal, better nursing service. I should like to hear about your training school for Nurses, and I would be glad to give you information about ours.

Our entire class and I await your reply with much interest. With kindest regards to our fellow students of England.

Sincerely,
HELEN OSWALD.

GRENFELL ASSOCIATION OF GREAT BRITAIN AND IRELAND.

To the Editor of THE BRITISH JOURNAL OF NURSING.

DEAR MADAM,—I wish to thank you on behalf of the Grenfell Committee for the splendid notice you have given in THE BRITISH JOURNAL OF NURSING to our Grenfell

Calendar. I am sure this publicity will help the sale and in this way also help the medical work in Labrador and North Newfoundland.

Thanking you for your courtesy,

Yours very truly,
K. SPALDING,
Hon. Secretary.

THE NURSING OF THE CHRONIC SICK.

To the Editor of THE BRITISH JOURNAL OF NURSING.

DEAR MADAM.—Being intensely interested in the vital question as to whether the chronic sick should be nursed by fully qualified Nurses, I take the liberty and the opportunity of stating most emphatically from long personal experience of such cases, that they should be nursed only by fully trained Nurses, with a thorough knowledge of each individual type of illness or infirmity, and of how to deal with any emergency which might arise. As a probationer for two years at the Edinburgh Royal Longmore Hospital for Incurables, I had the privilege of being taught by fully qualified Ward Sisters to realise the importance of attention to nursing details of every kind, particularly the details of refinement which are so necessary in the care of the sad, extreme cases so wonderfully described in the vividly descriptive address by a "Fellow of the British College of Nurses," published in the November JOURNAL. The patient's peace of mind and courage to endure, as well as his bodily comfort, depend almost entirely on the Nurse's tact and kindness, combined with the carefully trained method of handling each individual case. Among the chronic sick are many individuals who have devoted the best part of their lives to the welfare of their fellow beings, so, surely it must be right that they should in their great need receive the very best care from the very best type of fully trained Nurse, thus being made to feel that they are still considered to be worthy of the best care the Nursing Profession can give.

Nothing can be more true than the fact that "few Nurses having done this work would have missed it." I have never regretted the two years spent learning to "Nurse" in the true sense of the word, and at the same time learning to understand the most wonderful examples of courage and patient endurance by human beings of almost unbearable pain and discomfort with little hope of improvement.

With grateful thanks to you for the opportunity given of expressing my deepest feelings on this so interesting subject,

I am, dear Madam,
Yours truly,

F. A. H. WOOD, S.R.N., F.B.C.N.
(Cert. Royal Longmore Hospital for Incurables, Edinburgh.)
Pendennis Road, Streatham.

PRIZE COMPETITION QUESTION FOR JANUARY, 1937.

What opportunities has an Industrial Nurse in regard to the prevention of disease?

We regret we are unable to award a prize this month, no paper of sufficient merit having been received.

LAST WORD FOR 1936.

Yonder the long horizon lies, and there by night and day
The old ships draw to home again, the young ships sail
away;

And come I may, but go I must, and if men ask you why,
You may put the blame on the stars and the sun, the
white road and the sky.

From "*Wander Thirst*,"
GERALD GOULD.