

**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.*

**LEAGUE OF FEVER NURSES.**

*To the Editor of THE BRITISH JOURNAL OF NURSING.*

DEAR MADAM,—The President and members of the League of Fever Nurses who were at the meeting on November 24th, have asked me to convey their best thanks to you for so kindly allowing them to hold their Autumn meeting at the British College of Nurses. They were all delighted with the College, and greatly appreciated the privilege of being able to hold their meeting there.

Please accept a very warm vote of thanks from every one present.

Believe me,

Yours sincerely,

M. DRAKARD,

*Hon. Secretary.*

**THE QUALIFICATIONS OF QUEEN'S NURSES.**

*To the Editor of THE BRITISH JOURNAL OF NURSING.*

57 Lower Belgrave Street,  
London, S.W.1.  
17th December, 1936.

DEAR MADAM,—In the December issue of THE BRITISH JOURNAL OF NURSING there is a paragraph which refers to the qualifications of Queen's Nurses, and it occurs to me that there may be some misunderstanding as to what training is required by the Institute before a nurse can be accepted for work as a Queen's Nurse.

I have pleasure in enclosing the regulations concerning this, in which it will be seen that no applicant is considered unless she holds the certificate of full hospital training, and if this was completed since 1927 that of State Registration on the General part of the Register. The paragraph to which I refer may give the impression that Queen's Nurses need not be so qualified, and I should be glad if such a misapprehension could be removed.

Yours truly,

MERCY WILMSHURST,

General Superintendent.

[We have to thank Miss Wilmshurst for a copy of the "Regulations as to the Training and Engagement of Queen's Nurses," with which excellent curriculum we are well acquainted, the training and invaluable work of Queen's Nurses having been constantly commended in these columns.

We imagine Miss Wilmshurst takes exception to the expression of opinion which appeared in the "Echoes" last month when alluding to the Jubilee Appeal to be made this year on behalf of the Queen's Institute and County Associations for District Nurses. We remarked: "Every one will wish success to the appeal if it will enable district nursing to be performed by highly qualified Registered nurses—as many of the Queen's Nurses are—and to discourage the employment of ill-paid 'Nurse Midwives' as Voluntary Associations are permitted to do under the New Midwives Act."

Since 1927 State Registration as a General Nurse has been the standard for Queen's Nurses. The "Nurse Midwives" employed by Voluntary Associations are not Registered Nurses. The New Midwives Act subsidises Associations employing these unqualified nurses—thus ignoring the Nurses' Registration Act of 1919—and will affect most injuriously Registered Nurses who might be employed in rural district nursing.

The truth is that if the Queen's Institute and the College of Nursing had supported the principle advocated by the

British College of Nurses and the Royal British Nurses' Association, when the new Midwives' Bill was before Parliament, that the Government had no right to subsidise unregistered nurses to care for the rural poor, out of public funds, this professional injury, both to Registered Nurses and the dependent sick, might have been averted.—ED.]

**BRITISH SPAS FEDERATION.**

*To the Editor of THE BRITISH JOURNAL OF NURSING.*

DEAR SIR,—The increasing importance attached by the leaders of the medical profession to physical medicine and modern developments in the use of spa treatment, compel the interest of members of the nursing profession in hydrological methods. Many nurses may, too, unfortunately, have reason themselves to seek the benefits of a spa for some rheumatic or other of the many conditions amenable to such treatment.

It is the desire of the British Spas Federation that the methods of treatment available at the British spas—Bath, Bridge of Allan, Buxton, Cheltenham, Droitwich, Harrogate, Leamington, Llandrindod Wells, Strathpeffer, Trefriw, and Woodhall Spa—shall be known as fully as possible to the nursing profession, and that the facilities these spas afford shall be available to practising nurses for their own use. At all these spas, the treatment is given to qualified nurses in practice at half fees. The certificate of qualification, registration, or a letter from a doctor, should be taken to the spa as proof of eligibility for this special arrangement.

Yours very truly,

JOHN HATTON,

Honorary Secretary.

The Hot Springs,  
Bath.

**KERNELS FROM CORRESPONDENCE.**

**Taking Time by the Forelock.**

*A Matron writes:* "Of course it will be impossible for everyone to be present at the I.C.N. Congress next year. A good plan, however, for some of us will be to arrange to take a week of our annual holiday at that time."

*District Nurse writes:* "I am around quite a bit, and during this wet weather marvel to note how few women use umbrellas as most men seem to do. In consequence, of witches there are no end; the short doggie curls now in fashion, when wet and dripping are most untidy and disfiguring. In buses these women in dripping macs and coats add greatly to discomfort, and when coughing and sneezing as few appear to use handkerchiefs."

**THANKS OF THE EDITORIAL STAFF.**

The Editor wishes to express thanks for the hundreds of appreciative letters received during the past year from readers of the B.J.N. from all over the world. These expressions of professional appreciation inspire the Editorial Staff with renewed energy in their somewhat uphill work.

**THE NATIONAL COUNCIL OF NURSES OF GREAT BRITAIN.**

Headquarters Address: 39, Portland Place, London, W.1. Members of National Associations of Nurses visiting London always welcomed with pleasure.

**PRIZE COMPETITION QUESTION FOR FEBRUARY, 1937.**

Give an account of the development of a normal infant from birth to 12 months of age.

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

[previous page](#)

[next page](#)