

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 MARY AGNES SNIVELY MEMORIAL MEDALS.

Montreal, Canada.

MY DEAR MRS. BEDFORD FENWICK,

Your sympathetic and generous comment upon the award of the Mary Agnes Snively Memorial Medal has given me very great pleasure.

As the Dean of all nurse journalists the world over, you speak with that authority which comes only from experience. I am therefore very proud that you should think me worthy of an honourable company in which you yourself are the oldest and the most distinguished member.

Very sincerely yours,

ETHEL JOHNS,

Editor, *The Canadian Nurse*.

[The Editor of THE BRITISH JOURNAL OF NURSING offers warm thanks to her eminent colleague for very generous recognition].

NORFOLK AND NORWICH STAFF OF NURSES, LTD.

To the Editor of THE BRITISH JOURNAL OF NURSING.

DEAR MADAM,—May I, through the medium of your paper, notify all past nurses of the Norfolk and Norwich Staff of Nurses (The Surrey Street Nursing Home) that, owing to enemy action, the Home is now closed down.

The records of the staff are in the care of Messrs. Mills and Reeve, solicitors, 74, Upper Close, Norwich, and any communications addressed to me at 45, All Saints' Green, Norwich, will be forwarded.

The Staff has been established for 74 years and many of the old nurses are in receipt of pensions.

A fund has been started locally to help those who are bound to suffer by the closing of the Home, and if any would care to contribute, even small amounts would be gratefully received.—Yours faithfully,

GLADYS DALE, *Matron*.

Nursing Home, 32, Surrey Street, Norwich.

THE CONSCRIPTION OF NURSES.

To the Editor of THE BRITISH JOURNAL OF NURSING.

DEAR MADAM,—I am glad to note Lord Davies is not at one with the resolution of the House Committee of the King Edward VII Welsh National Memorial Association advocating the conscription of Nurses in Civil Management. It would be strongly resented, but I do not see why, if our men are to be conscripted to protect our country, why women should not be called upon in like manner to serve it for military nursing. We are voting citizens, and must realise as such we have national responsibilities. These matters will have to be considered in the future, the present is not the time. The question is: Do we love our country? Do we realise its value? Do we claim that it shall stand for all that is best in the world? Is Britain a jewel beyond price? If so, then we must take every means in our power to protect it.—Yours faithfully,

AN ARDENT ADMIRER OF THE B.J.N.

NATIONAL INSTITUTE FOR THE BLIND.

224-6-8, GREAT PORTLAND STREET, LONDON, W.1.

To the Editor of THE BRITISH JOURNAL OF NURSING.

DEAR MADAM,—Lord Nuffield, who has always been a most generous friend of the blind, has just sent me a cheque for £10,000 in the hope that it may be used to help those who become blind or their dependants.

Serious injuries to the eyes must occur daily in the bombed areas, and it is probable that in many instances they will lead to permanent blindness. May I beg you to make known the fact that the National Institute for the

Blind, of which I am chairman, in conjunction with the local societies for the blind and the responsible local authorities throughout the country, has a plan laid down for assisting blind civilians in all possible ways?

I shall be deeply grateful if your readers will let me have at the National Institute for the Blind, 224, Great Portland Street, London, W.1, particulars of any men, women or children whose sight has been injured during the air raids, so that they can immediately be brought within the scheme of assistance.—Yours very truly,

E. B. B. TOWSE, *Chairman*.

GIFT TO HISTORY SECTION.

To the Editor of THE BRITISH JOURNAL OF NURSING.

DEAR MADAM,—Thank you so much for printing in the September journal the letter relating to Florence Nightingale.

I am so glad you would like to have the original paper, which I now have much pleasure in sending for your acceptance to place in the History Section. It is nice to think that it forms a link with Scotland.

I think you will find the paper in good condition, and the letter I quoted is on the inner page.

With best wishes for your personal health and safety in these troublous times and the prosperity of the BRITISH JOURNAL OF NURSING.—Yours faithfully,

JOSEPHINE G. GILCHRIST.

THE ROYAL INFIRMARY OF EDINBURGH.

To the Editor of THE BRITISH JOURNAL OF NURSING.

Simpson Memorial Maternity Pavilion.

DEAR MRS. BEDFORD FENWICK,—My nurses greatly appreciated the copy of the BRITISH JOURNAL OF NURSING sent for their sitting-room. They enjoyed the contents immensely, and have asked me to convey their thanks to you.—Yours sincerely,

JEAN P. FERLIE, *Matron-in-Charge*.

[We considered their communication, which appeared in our last issue, of great interest and hope they will make further use of this journal.—Ed.]

KERNELS FROM CORRESPONDENCE.

"So tired of Food Chat" writes: "No doubt the subject of most universal interest at the moment is food. I realise the victory in war depends largely upon it, but oh! if we had no tummies, how much happier we should be. The truth begins to appear that if we could live on suction like snipe and the Heavenly watering pot was universally beneficent, there would be no reason for bandits to grab slices of the earth from others. What could they do with it? Alas! that we must spend so much precious time weighing out little bits of butter and sugar, to say nothing of tea! And all because greedy men and women consider it necessary to digest four huge meals a day. What are our chemists doing that they do not provide a sufficiency of food in tabloid form? I am tired of food chat."

[Slices of earth are required for other purposes than food. This is an interesting question. The Editor hopes for communications concerning it.—Ed.]

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PRIZE COMPETITION.

We regret that no Prize Paper of sufficient merit has been received for publication.

PRIZE COMPETITION QUESTION FOR NOVEMBER.

What is Erysipelas? Discuss the nursing of a case and indicate the treatment that might be adopted.

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