

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.

"A MORAL REPRISAL."

To the Editor of THE BRITISH JOURNAL OF NURSING.
FAYETTEVILLE, U.S.A.

DEAR MADAM,—Be praised and blest, as also the "wife of a British General" and "Another Woman" in that you have raised your voices in righteous wrath against the perpetrators of outrage to Englishwomen in the Far East. Perhaps the staff members remaining in your midst would also hate this vileness of their armies; it has no use in winning the war, nor is it a part of military science; nevertheless, they should be segregated so completely that no woman's eye could rest on them. Can we imagine the enemy under the same circumstances allowing English prisoners to walk in the parks and play tennis in their courts? Surely your wise men may exhibit at least a moral reprisal.

Women have always been outraged in war—with too little protest made—because women have been inarticulate. To-day they are able to speak and write, and heaven forbid that they should fail in this right.

As for the vicar who so willingly turns—not his own cheek to the smiters—I suggest that women might walk out of his church, taking their offerings with them. Any man who thinks that "complaints" based on the worst insult possible to womanhood are "disgraceful" deserves to be boycotted.

LAVINIA L. DOCK.

June 15th, 1942.

(I send this in my wrath, which I have kept well bottled down in respect to the Censor.—L. L. D.)

[Memories are so short in these days—and gratitude in our ranks by no means superfluous—that we may remind the younger generation of nurses that Miss Lavinia L. Dock, R.N., together with Professor M. Adelaide Nutting, of New York, is the eminent nurse historian who gave us, in 1907, "The History of Nursing," and who devoted 20 years' invaluable service as the first Hon. Secretary to the organisation of the International Council of Nurses. We are indeed thankful to have her approval of the policy of this Journal in its demand for the segregation of Japanese nationals in this country, to which so far the Home Secretary has not conformed. We have no doubt, however, that the Hong Kong bestial crimes will, in the future, receive national condemnation—and the punishment so well deserved—of those who have so far failed to impose it.—Ed.]

"IMMORTALITY" CALENDAR.

To the Editor of THE BRITISH JOURNAL OF NURSING,
THE TRAINED NURSES' ASSOCIATION OF INDIA,
5, RAJ NARAIN ROAD, DELHI.

DEAR MRS. BEDFORD FENWICK,—A short time ago I was thrilled to receive, as President of the Trained Nurses Association of India, the very beautiful Calendar, "Immortality," which you so kindly sent me. It was such an unexpected pleasure and I thank you very much for your kind gift. I have it hung in my office. You will know that the headquarters of our Association have been transferred from Coonoor to Delhi.

We trust that this move will enable us as an Association to be of much greater use to the Nursing Profession in India, especially as since then we are recognised as an Advisory Body on Nursing matters to the Government.

All that you have done and are doing for the cause of our beloved Profession is a great source of help and in-

spiration to us here in India where we are struggling against the conditions of nursing and of training.

With again many thanks and every good wish for all your work,

Yours sincerely,
A. WILKINSON,
President.

[It will be remembered that Miss Isabel Macdonald's Calendar for 1942—which she entitled "Immortality"—was sent to the Presidents of the National Associations of Nurses in our great Dominions and to U.S.A., with Christmas greetings from our National Council of Nurses. It was received with sincere appreciation.—Ed.]

NO POWER OF APPEAL.

Chislehurst Division.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.
SHELLEYS,
KNOCKHOLT, KENT.
July 13th, 1942.

To the Editor of THE BRITISH JOURNAL OF NURSING.

MADAM—If you allow correspondence to be published in the Journal, may I say that I have seen the article "Legal Matters," "No Power of Appeal," in your July issue.

It is not only that Miss Brownlow's position is at stake, but a great principle is involved—Magna Charta and the rights of the citizen.

After the war there may easily be another—Democracy against Bureaucracy.

We are fighting for freedom and liberty overseas. Let us make sure we do not lose them on the Home Front.

I hope the Nursing profession and their advisers will do all in their power to obtain justice, not only for Miss Brownlow but also for all citizens.

If I can help, I am at your service.

Your obedient servant,
WALDRON SMITHERS.

THE BRITISH JOURNAL OF NURSING.
July 14th, 1942.

To SIR WALDRON SMITHERS, M.P.

SIR,—I beg to thank you sincerely for your inspiring communication dated July 13th.

It will be with the greatest pleasure and gratitude that I shall publish it in the forthcoming issue of THE BRITISH JOURNAL OF NURSING.

Miss Brownlow's conduct throughout has been an inspiration to all nurses who love justice and freedom.

I beg to remain, Sir,

Your obedient servant,
ETHEL G. FENWICK.

Editor.

THE CARE OF THE CHRONIC SICK.

ROYAL HOSPITAL AND HOME,

WEST HILL, PUTNEY, S.W.15.

To the Editor of THE BRITISH NURSING JOURNAL.

DEAR MADAM,—In your December number you were good enough to publish a letter from me on the subject of Assistant Nurses and the care of the Chronic Sick. I had only recently been introduced to your paper, and have been struck with the way in which you champion the cause of the sick poor. Since last writing to you I have discussed this matter with several other nurses, and all who have had anything to do with this branch of nursing speak of similar experiences to my own. We are all agreed that something should be done about it, but do not know how to do it. In my experience, if a nurse complains of the conditions in which she is expected to nurse, she is merely ignored or told that she is not wanted. It certainly does not help her on in the world to disagree with things as they are.

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