

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.

From SIR ERNEST GRAHAM-LITTLE, M.D.,
F.R.C.P., M.P.

To the Editor of THE BRITISH JOURNAL OF NURSING,
August 25th, 1947.

MADAM,—On the 5th June, 1947, I invited the Colonial Secretary to enquire into the case of a nursing sister, trained at St. Mary's Hospital, Paddington, now holding a very responsible nursing post in a hospital in Nigeria, who represented that her present salary, after 10 years' service, is less than that of a newly recruited typist. In confirmation of this statement I append a table, furnished to me by another nursing sister in the same service.

In his answer to my question, Mr. Creech Jones acknowledged that "there had been dissatisfaction among nurses and other members of the medical department in Nigeria regarding the terms of the recent salaries revision" and stated that the position is to be investigated. I would suggest that the Nursing Associations should forthwith inform the Colonial Secretary of their views on this situation.

I am, Yours, etc.,

E. GRAHAM-LITTLE.

TABLE OF COMPARATIVE SALARIES AWARDED BY THE RECENT REVISED SALARIES SCALES IN THE COLONIAL (NIGERIAN) NURSING SERVICE TO NURSING SISTERS AND SECRETARY TYPISTS RESPECTIVELY IN THE NIGERIAN NURSING SERVICE.

Year ...	NURSING SISTER.									
	1st	2nd	3rd	4th	5th	6th	7th	8th	9th	10th
Basic Salary	350	350	350	390	405	420	435	445	445	445
Expatriation Allowances	125	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
TOTAL ...	475	475	475	515	530	545	560	570	570	570
Year ...	SECRETARY TYPIST.									
	1st	2nd	3rd	4th	5th	6th	7th	8th	9th	10th
Basic Salary	450	450	450	510	525	540	555	570	585	600
Expatriation Allowance	150	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	200
TOTAL ...	600	600	600	660	675	690	705	720	735	800

[We have much pleasure in publishing the above communication from the Nurses' Champion, Sir Ernest Graham-Little.]

A Member of the British College of Nurses Ltd., writes from Australia:—

"I hope you received the parcel I posted, which contained cake, shortbread, sugar and dried milk, jam and tea. There was also posted from Anzac House, package containing pastry mix, suet, casserole steak, barley sugar, dried milk, custard powder, apricot jam, cornflour, cheese and meat extract. If anything you would like changing, I will tell the secretary who sends the parcels . . . 13 parcels were sent like this and one was included for you.

"The Australian Red Cross were asked by the British Red Cross to send relief for the flooded areas in Great Britain the amount to be sent from West Australia was £30,000, but over £72,000 was collected when the fund closed last Saturday and also thousands of tins of food also collected—this is not included in the £72,000—I do not know what the whole amount is for the whole of Australia but each individual state (6) exceeded its quota. Warm clothing and blankets were also asked for and I believe the clothing sent was wonderful a very great amount of new woollens—anyway the shops here are full of blankets, coupon free—and meat and butter coupons were also asked for and many tons leave this week; which should be given free where it is most needed." Our correspondent's letter is full of topical interest and continues: "you will be interested to know that they had a Florence Nightingale

appeal month (May) to send students to England from West Australia £2,000 was their objective—but over £4,000 was collected—Mr. Hubert Parker, our new Minister of Health in our new Government (Liberal at last) spoke well. . . . Shortage of nurses is most acute here and I believe about 30 are coming from Great Britain. . . . In this State, in some of the very isolated areas, the Presbyterian Church support two nurses and a small hospital is provided. These nurses are not allowed to stay more than two years in any one centre; many get married and others go to the other States, where after a holiday they apply for another centre just as isolated as in this State and they love the work! This is where the Flying Doctor Scheme works, started originally by a Presbyterian Clergyman named Flyn, and now it is Australian wide in the very sparsely inhabited areas.

"Our Winter is now here (June), the season opened well, with good rains, so the farmer so far is jubilant, we hope it will continue so that more food can be sent. The country-women have been collecting dripping, etc., and forwarding it in special containers to be sent to the Country-women's sections in England they hope, who will distribute it. Over 4,000 parcels have been waiting at the Perth General Post Office since May 6th, to be forwarded to England. . . . I am looking forward to receiving the "Journal". . . . I am writing this in a glass enclosed verandah and next door, a beautiful Wattle tree (mimosa) is in full bloom and in our garden Poinsettias with their brilliant red flowers and our Lemon Tree is well laden—just turning yellow! We hope to preserve some this season if we get enough sugar."

With kindest regards—

[We are overwhelmed by the magnitude of Australia's beneficence to the Mother Country in her hour of need—and the help in particular to our members who have received and continue to receive the generous and welcome parcels from our Australian colleagues, and for which we feel our expressions of warm thanks and gratitude seem all too inadequate, nevertheless, we are truly appreciative, and hope one day to repay such unprecedented kindness!—A.S.B.]

REVIEW.

ANATOMY AND PHYSIOLOGY FOR NURSES*

By W. P. Gawland, M.D. (Lond.), F.R.C.S. (England), and John Caine, M.D., F.R.A.C.S.

From New Zealand comes this most excellent textbook for Nurses on Physiology and Anatomy. Lack of space forbids the generous review which such an admirable textbook deserves. Teachers of Student Nurses in any country will find it a treasure of inestimable worth and are advised to lose no time in obtaining their own personal copy. It is a joy to turn the glossy pages and study the numerous illustrations, many of which are reproduced in colour and have been most beautifully and artistically drawn. The text is presented concisely and most instructively in bold type, so that reading is made pleasurable and involves no strain. The two distinguished authors are to be congratulated and appreciated for this fine work on behalf of Nurses. It is a gem worthy of an International setting.
G.M.H.

WHAT TO READ.

MEMOIRS AND BIOGRAPHY.

"Prelude to Glory." Group Captain Maurice Newnham, O.B.E., D.F.C.

FICTION.

- "Challenge to Destiny." Ethel Boileau and Baxter Ellis.
- "Dance Without Music." Peter Cheyney.
- "Wax Fruit." Guy McCrone.
- "Like a Flower." Sheila S. Thompson.

*Sole distributing Agents: N. M. Peryer, Ltd., 145-147, Worcester Street, Christchurch, New Zealand.

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