

## 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*

23, PORTLAND PLACE, LONDON, W.1.

March 22nd, 1950.

DEAR MADAM,

As you are aware, my Council have now discontinued the formal Oral examinations, and arrangements will be made for additional Centres for the Practical examinations to be held in many parts of the country. It is hoped that the examination at any Centre will not extend beyond two days and that, by arranging these additional Centres, candidates will not have the inconvenience of travelling very long distances for their examination. These arrangements, of course, will depend upon Hospital Authorities being able to provide accommodation for the Practical examination, and it is hoped that Training Schools will be able to co-operate with the Council in this matter. I am enclosing a list of the towns in which it is proposed to arrange Centres for the Preliminary Examination and the Final Examination for the General Part of the Register. Centres for the Final Examinations for other Parts of the Register will be arranged to suit the convenience of the majority of the candidates.

When discussing these arrangements, my Committee expressed the opinion that it might be helpful if the above information were brought to the notice of Training Schools and candidates through the medium of the Nursing Press. I should therefore be grateful if you could bring this matter to the attention of your readers.

Yours faithfully,

M. HENRY, Registrar.

The General Nursing Council for  
England and Wales.

|                     |                       |                     |
|---------------------|-----------------------|---------------------|
| Birmingham          | Gloucester            | Portsmouth          |
| Blackburn           | Halifax               | Preston             |
| Bolton              | Hull                  | Reading             |
| Bournemouth         | Ipswich               | Romford             |
| Bradford            | Isleworth             | St. Albans          |
| Brighton            | Kingston-on-Thames    | (Preliminary)       |
| Bristol             | Leeds                 | St. Helens          |
| Cambridge           | Leicester             | Sheffield           |
| Canterbury          | Liverpool             | Shoreham-by-Sea     |
| Cardiff             | Lincoln               | Southampton         |
| Carshalton          | London                | Stockport           |
| (Preliminary)       | Maidstone             | Stoke-on-Trent      |
| Chester             | Manchester            | Sunderland          |
| Coventry            | Middlesbrough         | Swansea             |
| Croydon             | Newcastle-on-Tyne     | Truro (if required) |
| Dartford            | Newport (Preliminary) | Wakefield           |
| (Preliminary)       | Norwich               | (Preliminary)       |
| Derby (Preliminary) | Nottingham            | Wolverhampton       |
| Exeter              | Oxford                | York                |
| Farnborough, Kent   | Plymouth              |                     |

The National Council of Nurses of Great Britain  
and Northern Ireland  
17, Portland Place, W.1.

"May we, through the courtesy of your columns, express grateful thanks to members of the National Council of Nurses and friends, for their generous response to the appeal for teaching equipment for nurses in Korea. The final date for receiving gifts is April 3rd, 1950. The response throughout has shown that there exists real evidence of goodwill towards nurses overseas who are handicapped in their teaching by lack of material."

PRESIDENT AND BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE NATIONAL  
COUNCIL OF NURSES OF GREAT BRITAIN AND NORTHERN  
IRELAND.

## News from South Africa.

AMONG THE MANY WELCOME LETTERS we receive from Fellows and Members of the British College of Nurses, Ltd., abroad and overseas, we feel it would interest our readers to quote the views of a Fellow in S. Africa who writes:—

"You would think that in South Africa domestic labour would be plentiful—it is not—no one wants to do house work! . . . I am not badly off though—for I have a very nice coloured woman who comes to help me twice or three times a week and seems to enjoy coming, which is rather nice."

In alluding to what 1950 may bring in changes for Britain in the result of the General Election and the example of New Zealand and Australia—she continues: "I never thought N.Z. would turn down the Socialist Government for it has done wonderful things for the country. My brother lives there, and he says the working man likes to be independent of political and Government interference, to be well paid for his services and make his own domestic arrangements, and I believe he is right. He says that with all the wonderful things that have been done for the lower income groups, Housing, etc., may turn the places into slums, etc., etc. So I begin to think it is perhaps a good thing to have to struggle along, and all the present spoon-feeding that is going on is a mistake except for the aged and the children. My brother seems to think there should be a difference in pay for the working class, if a man is good at his job he should receive a higher rate than a lazy fellow who puts no effort into his work. As things are a job carries a fixed wage for good or bad in that job."

"In our own profession there is a tremendous change taking place; perhaps they are getting somewhere? . . . But out here they need more and more hospitals—never enough beds for people who need hospital treatment, and so on—never enough nurses, and the work is being made more and more attractive. Self-sacrifice for the good of mankind, does not appear to have a place in our new world. . . . I expect things will come right eventually. I really think in spite of all the ups and downs of today people are becoming kinder to one another. . . ."

"We are at the beginning of our summer and have had a few sweltering days, while you are having snow!"

## KERNELS FROM CORRESPONDENCE.

### Wanted a Leader.

THE TWO LEADERS BY MISS BRYSON have been marvellous—I've sent this month's one round to the Hospital. There is quite a flavour of Mrs. B. Fenwick about them. The Nursing Profession—as she knew it—is dead beyond hope of resurrection, and we'll have to do our best with the corpse.

A new Profession will have to arise—when we can find a leader worthy to follow! This does not seem to be the age of leaders, the times—like the people—are becoming decadent.

Hospitals nowadays are not primarily institutions for nursing the sick—but headquarters for groups of ambitious administrators!—A MATRON.

## News from an Old and Valued Friend.

I FEEL THAT I MUST FIRST SEND you a line to say how much I appreciated the Editorial of January, it was so uplifting and refreshing. Living, as I do, alone in the country, it so well fitted into my sentiments. I do not know G. M. H., but I do congratulate her.

Also it was very nice to see Miss Bryson's picture; the sight of the photograph brought back many pleasant memories of far-off days and things of long ago, which also did the mention of many familiar names.—K. A. S.

[previous page](#)

[next page](#)