

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

The editor is not responsible for opinions expressed in this department. All communications must be accompanied by the name and address of writer.

### HOW CAN WE HELP OUR MAIDS?

DEAR EDITOR: There is one question I would like to ask which might, perhaps, be answered through the JOURNAL. It is this: How can those whose manner of life brings them to dealing with one or several domestics in a home and with those of their neighbors, really help the health of such and the efforts of doctors and nurses to help them. We have considered how we may help the employees in other departments more than those who comes so close to us. I am inclined to think that here is a field for very important missionary work.

*California.*

L. J. G.

### UNNECESSARY DISCOMFORT

DEAR EDITOR: During a recent hospital term there was prescribed for me castor oil and cascara. This was a viscid liquid that necessitated a degree of suction to drain the glass container. This crude method of administering so unpalatable a remedy caused nausea so that I endured six or seven hours of misery. My condition in other respects was almost normal and castor oil itself had no terrors for me, as I had often taken it. Since castor oil is in such general use, it should be administered in its least repulsive form with fruit juices, coffee, jelly or sarsaparilla. It should be made fluid enough to be swallowed quickly and a bite of bread or cracker given afterward, which will usually prevent any uneasiness. This criticism is made from the desire to alleviate the discomfort of other patients, many of whom are already racked with pain.

This was my first hospital experience and if all are as well managed, patients are fortunate in having such quarters at their disposal. There were system, cleanliness, cheerful attention and good food, neatly served.

*Pennsylvania.*

"EXPERIENCE."

### THE CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL, LOS ANGELES

DEAR EDITOR: The circumstances connected with the disorganization of the School of Nursing at the new Children's Hospital in Los Angeles, California, are of interest to the nursing profession and the public.

The Children's Hospital is incorporated as a charity and is controlled by a board of fifty women managers. It is dependent for its maintenance upon life-memberships and annual subscriptions solicited from the community.

A training school was organized in January, 1914. It was the first school established on a tuition basis in the State of California. Marian L. Vannier, a graduate of Johns Hopkins Hospital, was principal of the training school. She had been superintendent of the hospital for three years, during which time she inspired the nurses, with whom she came in contact, with high professional ideals.

During her administration, the new Children's Hospital was erected, and