

many new Probationers have the slightest respect for a polished floor? There she goes—slopping water, milk, beef tea, or any other liquid ready to hand, from one end of the ward to the other; and then “Sister’s little ways”—ways which the “Staffs” know and respect—are usually “fid-fads” to the sacrilegious new Pro. No! what I like is to get a sensible woman into the ward as Probationer for a solid three months, and then I am quite ready to teach her all I can; but to come on duty one morning and find a complete novice, who of course knows nothing, who, after being in the Hospital a week, asks for a “theatre pass,” and who, in consequence, is unfitted to come on duty in the morning, and who takes it as a matter of course that the Staff is able to perform duty for two, is more than I can tolerate. What is needed in our large Training Schools is more systematic training before the Pros. come on duty—and there are numbers of practical things which can be taught thus far better than in the daily busy routine of ward work. Send the “Staffs,” Pros. who know how to polish, sweep and dust, who can use a needle, and who really wish to learn, and we should feel much less inclined to “snub.” It is difficult to acknowledge that we were equally stupid, careless, and indifferent when we were Pros.

A. STAFF NURSE.

*To the Editor of “The Nursing Record.”*

MADAM,—The system of “snubbing” Probationers is very much a matter of hospital discipline, and in consequence “tone.” I received my training in two institutions, the first a large busy Hospital in a north country town, and the second in London. In the first Hospital, although I was a “raw Pro.,” nothing could exceed the patience and kindness of the ward Nurses and Sisters under whom I worked. But the fact was that the Matron was herself a pattern of what a Matron should be, and encouraged by her gentleness and devotion to duty, a most high tone in the Hospital, and would have been grieved if those working under her had been made unhappy by snubbing and bullying.

In the second hospital in which I worked, quite the reverse was the rule; we never saw the Matron, she seldom visited the wards, and knew nothing concerning the details of the ward work, nor the Probationers by sight. In this hospital I endured months of unhappiness from the cynicism and lack of courtesy upon the part of many of the Sisters and Nurses. I fear it is too true that women are very easily led, and follow a bad example, or a good one, as the case may be. The system of training in many of our large Hospitals might certainly be improved by more leisurely and systematic teaching upon the part of the senior Nurses, but I own that they have not much time to spare for this duty.

Yours truly,  
“SISTER JOAN.”

#### HOLIDAYS.

*To the Editor of “The Nursing Record.”*

DEAR MADAM,—I wonder if any of my fellow members, and, in fact, any readers of this paper, would care to know of a really homely “Pension” in Lausanne? Address “Madame Ernst, Villa Paleyre.” Madame Ernst is most kind and motherly, and only charges something less than five francs per day, so that Nurses (belonging to a co-operation) can easily afford the journey out, as, with the board and residence

being so much cheaper, it does not cost more than an English holiday, and the change is much greater.

Yours truly,  
S. B. FARNSWORTH, R.N.S.

Lausanne.

*To the Editor of “The Nursing Record.”*

DEAR EDITOR,—I wonder if you can spare a little room for such an unprofessional thing as holidays, for I experienced last year a very delightful one, which I should like to tell your readers about.

It was July, and in our country district a long epidemic of influenza had kept us closely at work all through the hot weather of May and June. The last patients who lingered on seemed so long in getting strength that I had not the heart to go for my holiday at the time arranged, but decided to wait, and so I lost the pleasant company of my friend from the big London Hospital, who was to have gone with me. What delightful shop we should have talked! and I longed to hear all about the oxygen cure and all the new hospital ways, for one get so rusty in the country.

But “thrown on my beam ends” as I was, and finding myself sadly in want of a change, I was quite at a loss where to go. My married sister had scarlet fever in the house, and every door seemed closed. “How dreary I shall be alone!” I said to myself, picturing the long evenings at sea-side lodgings.

Just then someone brought to my notice a very attractive little programme headed “Co-operative Holidays,” and it was one of these parties under the auspices of the National Home Reading Union that I joined. Thirty-one shillings is the very moderate cost for a week’s hearty enjoyment at either, Whitby, Keswick, Helensburg or Edinburgh; and this sum provides board, bathing, boating, field lectures (during the rambles on botany, geology and archæology for those who are interested in these subjects), and concerts and entertainments in the evenings. The weekly parties number about fifty, and my week was such a pleasant one that I think many Nurses would be glad to hear of this truly recreative holiday at so small a cost. I am sure other Nurses often feel, as I did, too wearied with thinking and planning for their patients to want to plan for themselves; and every day arranged for one in varied enjoyment and pleasant companionship is as much a refreshment to the body, as it is a rest to the mind.

A stamped addressed envelope sent to Mr. T. A. Leonard will secure a copy of the very charming little circular, which gives particulars about the advantages of early booking, cheap trains, advice as to books and luggage; indeed, everything one wants to know.

Your paper is always so enlightened in caring for our interests that I have the more confidence in bringing the matter before your readers. The holiday weeks begin on May 23rd, and they go on all through the summer.

Yours truly,  
SISTER FLORENCE.

[We should be glad to have Mr. T. A. Leonard’s address in case any of our readers ask for it.—ED.]

DELICIOUS MAZAWATTEE TEAS.  
DELICIOUS MAZAWATTEE TEAS.  
DELICIOUS MAZAWATTEE TEAS.  
DELICIOUS MAZAWATTEE TEAS.  
DELICIOUS MAZAWATTEE TEAS.

The Popular Tea of the day. Dainty and Delicious

[previous page](#)

[next page](#)