

distinct sets being set aside for use on the different days of the week, none of which we hope are used on a second occasion. Here is also the steriliser for instruments. The dressings in this Hospital are at present not sterilised. The Nursing staff appear to be, and with reason, proud of this latest addition to their Hospital. Doubtless the high standard aimed at in this department will make its influence felt throughout the Hospital, and we can hardly doubt that in the neighbourhood of Hyde Park Corner, the necessary funds will be found to effect any improvements for which the authorities appeal for help.

Examinations.

At the present time every Training School of any importance insists, and we believe rightly, upon its Nurses satisfying Examiners as to their practical and theoretical attainments, in a written examination before granting to them its certificate. That those responsible for signing certificates of efficiency must take some means of testing the knowledge of the pupils of their schools is obvious. At the same time many Nurses find it difficult to express clearly upon paper, facts which they really know, and fail to do themselves justice at a time when it is most important to them to be at their best. This often arises, we believe, from want of practice in writing examination papers. It is always our object to make the NURSING RECORD of as much practical value as possible to our readers, and therefore we propose to meet this difficulty by publishing each week from this date, two questions, in the NURSING RECORD, and we invite our readers to send in answers to them, and thus accustom themselves to expressing their thoughts accurately in writing.

A Prize of One Guinea will be awarded at the end of three months to the competitor who has obtained the highest number of marks during that time. A certain number of answers attaining a certain standard of excellence will be printed in the NURSING RECORD, and must not exceed 250 words.

QUESTIONS.—JANUARY 2ND.

- (1) What are the three chief objections to the Registration of Asylum Attendants as Trained Nurses?
- (2) Describe the precautions which should be taken by a Private Nurse to effectually disinfect herself after nursing an infectious case.

(For Conditions see our Advertisement re Prizes.)

Nursing Echoes.

* * * All communications must be duly authenticated with name and address, not for publication, but as evidence of good faith, and should be addressed to the Editor, 20, Upper Wimpole Street, W.



WE have pleasure in announcing that Miss Edla R. Wortabet has, for the second time, been awarded the guinea prize in the December competition for her "Notes of a Case on Rheumatic Influenza with Double Pneumonia, followed by Tubercular Meningitis," which appears in another column.

The cases submitted by Miss Joan Reeves and Sister Grace Webster are highly commended.

REPORTS reach us from many sources of the Bright and Happy Christmas spent in our Hospitals and Infirmarys, and from those in which we had time to peep we found, as usual, a vast amount of kindness, happiness, and joy. The eve of the festival is full of delightful anticipation, and we may take the wards of the London Homœopathic Hospital as an example of the general feeling in our charitable institutions. Here the decorations of the several wards were simple, and charmingly effective. Gorgeous pointsettias and red geraniums, tender-toned chrysanthemums, and ferns, palms, and holly, the greenery enhanced under the glimmer of a touch of frost. In some windows little red lanterns glowed, and, at the end of Barton Ward, a lovely tree reached from floor to ceiling, all alight with dozens of coloured electric globes—red, green, blue, gold—an ingenious wire having been attached to the central electric light. This struck us as a wise and effective precaution from a chance of fire, and by this means the tempting tree could be lighted up at pleasure all through the week, until the momentous hour on the 31st inst., when its beguiling branches were rifled of all its treasures.

At 4 p.m. a "High Tea" was served in each ward—many old patients being invited guests. We can speak from experience that the fare provided was most tempting—fresh tongues, hams, galantine, cakes, white and brown bread and butter, and fragrant tea and coffee. During this feast a lovely snow-maiden, gowned in pure white and wreathed with garlands of silver

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