

Notices.

Will our readers kindly notice that communications for insertion in the current number of the NURSING RECORD should reach the editorial Office, 20, Upper Wimpole Street, W., *if possible*, not later than Wednesday morning. We receive much interesting matter just after we have gone to press which, if sent a few posts earlier, could be inserted, but is stale a week later.

In consequence of innumerable complaints, we would advise our readers in provincial towns to order their NURSING RECORD through Messrs. Smith & Son's Bookstall at the Railway Station. In case they have any difficulty in obtaining it in this manner each week, we shall be glad if they will write a post card to the Manager, at our Offices.

Comments and Replies.

Pupil Midwife.—The bed for a midwifery patient should be prepared with a long mackintosh under the bottom sheet as well as with a short mackintosh and draw sheet. The upper clothes should be made as for a surgical bed, but should be turned up all round. At the time of the confinement an additional mackintosh, covered by an antiseptic pad, must be placed under the patient, and the upper bed-clothing entirely removed, the patient being covered by a blanket. After the event is over the "labour mackintosh" is removed, when the bed should be spotless. The upper

bedclothes not having been on the bed at all are of course immaculate.

Matron.—The Matron of a Poor Law Infirmary is an officer under the Local Government Board, and as such can only be dismissed by that Board. The Board of Guardians has power to censure her and to report her to the Local Government Board, but there its power ends. At the same time we are well aware that the position of a matron under the Poor Law who may run counter to the prejudices of the Guardians may by various means be made almost untenable.

Nursing Reserve Sister.—The autumn, and with it the cold weather, will soon be settling in in South Africa, and as at all times it is chilly at night, we should recommend you to supply yourself with warm under clothes and night gowns. Viyella is an admirable material for such garments, as it does not shrink in washing, and the price is within a nurse's means. All the principal drapers keep Viyella in various pretty shades.

Miss P.—We should strongly advise you not to proceed to South Africa with any idea of offering your services as a nurse to our sick and wounded soldiers. We wonder that if you have been "learning nursing" for the last three months that you have not at least learnt how very little you know, and how incapable you are of being any use in the responsible position of a nurse on active service until you have thoroughly learnt your work. A little knowledge is a dangerous thing. The fact that you "have influence" does not justify you in subjecting our troops to unskilled nursing, even if such influence could secure your appointment, which we doubt.

Miss Francis.—A knowledge of sick cookery is always a useful and desirable acquirement in a nurse. We should certainly advise your taking the course you mention. No doubt when the minimum curriculum of nursing education is defined it will include instruction in the art of cooking.

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