## Motices.

WE acknowledge, with many thanks, a donation of five shillings from Miss Alice Cumings to our fund for the Nottingham Children's Hospital Bazaar.

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 tase 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.

Copies of the Nursing Record are always on sale at 269, Regent Street, price 1d. As this address is close to Oxford Circus, it will be found a Central Depôt.

## Comments and Replies.

Miss G. J., Tewkesbury.—We consider 23 the ideal age to enter a hospital for training, as the intervening years

since leaving school can be most usefully employed in self-education. Hospital training is so absorbing it is apt to somewhat cramp the mind if not well stored with general knowledge before becoming a probationer, and nowadays a class of women with cramped minds don't go "far,"

Sister G., London.—We sympathise with you in your difficulty. It is one of your most important duties to train

Sister G., London.—We sympathise with you in your difficulty. It is one of your most important duties to train the probationers working in your ward, and it is important that you should "make time" to teach them clinically. Only a scientific basis of knowledge is to be got from books. The living subject should be a nurse's field of study. We had a system even in the old days, 20 years ago, of practical teaching, which was useful and amused the patients. "Today we will take skins, we would say," and as there were 50 skins in the ward some variety of texture was available, so sister and pupils made a little tour and felt and examined skins, or facial expressions, or bed positions, or other idiosyncrasies, as the case might be, all indicative off disease. We also taught our pupils to use their five senses—and the rare sixth, common sense—if they had any. "What can fingers grasp?" was one question, to which were many answers. The quality of the pulse, the temperature of the skin, even the doubtful blessing from the nurse's point of view "a nose" has proved indispensable for a nurse, the various diseases each having their own peculiar smell, the sense of smell should be highly cultivated as in the rare bred hound. As the sporting Pro remarked "sister is a good hound spoilt." Teach from the living subject in the ward, and leave bookteaching to the theoretical lecturer.

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Society Woman.—We do not mean to be waspish on this question, but are of opinion that all this amateur nursing gush and advertisement at the seat of war, is unworthy of the women of England, and unfair on the women who have spent many years in learning and practising trained nursing. The "ardent amateur" dressed up in official uniform is ridiculous. How many of these excitable women would devote one whole day, or night, in caring for sick paupers at home.—Not one.

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A STATISTICAL COMPARISON BASED UPON THE

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