

every dirty corner. What will be the condition of her own hands after this process? Assuming the case upon which she is in attendance to be a midwifery one, their roughness alone would be a grave objection, but is it within the bounds of credulity that they have not been infected, and, if so, is any degree of safety attainable by the disinfection of roughened, and probably, cracked hands? No. It is surely only reasonable to hold that nurses should be studiously careful to keep their hands, as far as possible, from becoming infected, rather than endeavouring to shut the stable door after the steed has been stolen, by the disinfection of infected hands.

I am, Dear Madam,
Yours faithfully,
COMMON SENSE.

ESPERANTO.

To the Editor of the "British Journal of Nursing."

DEAR MADAM,—I think the idea of the formation of a class for the study of Esperanto is an admirable one. Those of us who attended the Berlin Congress, and whose knowledge of German did not extend beyond a slight knowledge of the classics written in that language, a very different matter from colloquial German, know how much we missed on that occasion. I should welcome an opportunity of studying a language which would enable us to converse with the interesting people of many nationalities whom one meets at International Congresses, and would gladly join an Esperanto class should one be formed.

I am, Dear Madam,
Yours faithfully,
UNA LINGUA.

Comments and Replies.

Miss Davis.—We presume the further addition of alcohol is made when a liquid solution is required. You will find under the heading of Practical Points in this issue a second formula for making Green Soap. In this alcohol is added when it is desired that the preparation should be liquid. We are glad to know that your staff enjoys the BRITISH JOURNAL OF NURSING.

Private Nurse.—It is not desirable, as a general rule, that nurses or other persons merely present at a birth or death should offer themselves as informants in the place of those upon whom the duty by law devolves. The national record is required to be attested by the signature of one of the parents in the case of a birth, and by the signature of a relative of the deceased in case of a death. Unless, therefore, the circumstances are quite exceptional, there is no necessity for the attendance of other persons at the Registrar's office. It is also undesirable under ordinary circumstances for nurses to act as witnesses to wills.

Mrs. P.—The Women's Total Abstinence Union has its headquarters at 4, Ludgate Hill, E.C.

Scotch Matron.—Membership of the Matrons' Council is open to women who are, or have been, Matrons of Hospitals, and to Superintendents of Nursing Institutions who are trained nurses. Forms of application may be obtained from the Hon. Secretary, Miss M. Breay, 431, Oxford Street, London, W.

Our Five Guinea Prize Competition.

A Prize of Five Guineas will be awarded each quarter by the Editor to the author of the best article on some practical nursing subject of about 2,000 words in length, with illustrations, of which photographs or engravings must be enclosed, and under the following conditions:—

1. Each competitor must enclose with his or her article a sealed envelope, outside which is written the title of the article, and inside a piece of paper containing the name of the article and the author's full name and address. No letter or other enclosure should give a clue to the identity of the competitor. Envelopes should be marked "£5 5s. Prize Competition."

2. The decision as to the winner of the Prize will be made by the Editor, and this decision must be accepted by each competitor as final and unquestionable. The Prize cannot be won twice in any one year by the same competitor.

3. The Editor reserves to herself the right to publish, if she thinks fit, any of the articles received for the competition; and in such an event will pay the author of such article the sum of one guinea, such article to become the property and copyright of the BRITISH JOURNAL OF NURSING.

All articles competing for the Prize must be received by the Editor, at 20, Upper Wimpole Street, London, W., not later than SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 23RD. The successful article will appear in the Autumn Special Number.

Notices.

THE SOCIETY FOR STATE REGISTRATION OF TRAINED NURSES.

All those desirous of helping on the important movement of this Society to obtain a Bill providing for the Legal Registration of Trained Nurses will find an application form on page vi., or can obtain all information concerning the Society and its work from the Hon. Secretary, 431, Oxford Street, London, W.

Those nurses who are working on behalf of the above Society, and are endeavouring to spread knowledge as to its aims, may be glad to know that they can now obtain a Memorandum, giving briefly the reasons why Registration is necessary, from the Hon. Secretary, 431, Oxford Street, London, W. Price 6d. for 20 copies.

Those interested in the efficient organisation of nursing should procure the Annual Report of the Society for the State Registration of Trained Nurses from the Hon. Secretary. Six copies, post free, 7d., or one copy 1½d. It gives a brief review of the history of State Registration.

CONTRIBUTIONS.

The Editor will at all times be pleased to consider articles of a suitable nature for insertion in this journal—those on practical nursing are specially invited. The Editor will also be pleased to receive paragraphs, such as items of nursing news, results of nurses' examinations, new appointments, reports of hospital functions, also letters on questions of interest to nurses, and newspapers marked with reports of matters of professional interest.

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

OUR PRIZE PUZZLE.

Rules for competing for the Pictorial Puzzle Prize will be found on Advertisement page viii.

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