

spend at home, no Saturday afternoons or Sundays, like most other women workers.

Her whole life is spent in the hospital, what excitement she has she obtains from interest in her work, and for relaxation perhaps an occasional visit to the theatre (if she is fortunate enough to live in or near a large town) she has no time for outside interests, and must chiefly depend on her fellow workers for friendship and amusement.

Can one wonder that her intelligence does not always grow with the rapidity of her years.

I have been a nurse for some years, and have met many nurses, am pleased and proud to say, most of them of a high standard of intelligence, with plenty of common sense, and some most womanly women, who are both kind and sympathetic to patients and fellow workers.

I venture to say most people who have suffered from any serious illness or surgical operation, will be glad and grateful for the ministrations of an experienced trained nurse, even though she has many faults and imperfections, and on the whole I think the majority of nurses have rather more brains than the lady gives them credit for.—Yours truly,

F. R.

IS IT TRUE?

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

DEAR MADAM,—I don't know whether I may be allowed another word. It seems to me that "Ember" is not right in attributing lack of brains in nurses to their want of education. Education cannot provide people with brains who are not born with a good supply. One may meet clever people who are not educated, and one may meet stupid people who are educated.

Yours truly,
"MARSETS."

We regret to be compelled to hold over until next week two most interesting letters on "Free Trade in Nursing."

Comments and Replies.

Probationer.—Medicines should never be dropped, but measured in a minim glass, as drops do not correspond accurately to minims, and a considerable difference may be made in the amount administered.

Miss Ellis.—It is one of the first duties of the nurse to keep the ward or room aired and ventilated. There should be a thermometer in every ward, and it should be consulted frequently.

Maternity Nurse.—An average infant weighs from 6½ to 7 lbs. at birth. It loses weight during the first few days, but soon makes this up again. It should be weighed weekly, as its increase in weight is one of the best criterions of its health.

Matron.—Dr. Cantlie's book on Physical Efficiency is published by G. P. Putnam's Sons, 24, Bedford Street, Strand, London, the publishers of Miss L. L. Dock's excellent Text-Book of Materia Medica.

Three Prize Competitions.

The Editor offers the following prizes:—

No. 1. PRACTICAL NURSING ARTICLE.

A prize of £2 2s. for the best article on a Practical Nursing Subject, of from 1,300 to 1,400 words. Illustrations are not compulsory, but add to the value of the article. Papers competing for this prize must be received by the Editor not later than Saturday, November 10th. The article gaining the prize and the name or pseudonym of the prize-winner will appear on November 17th.

No. 2. PUZZLE COMPETITION.

Details will be found on page viii.

No. 3. A PARAGRAPH OF PRACTICAL NURSING INTEREST.

A prize of 10s. for the best paragraph, on a postcard, of practical nursing interest. See our weekly "Practical Points" column. Postcards competing for this prize must reach the Editor not later than Saturday, Jan. 5th, 1907. The paragraph gaining the prize, and the name or pseudonym of the prize-winner will be published on Saturday, Jan. 12th.

CONDITIONS GOVERNING COMPETITIONS 1 AND 3.

Each competitor for No. 1 Prize must enclose with his or her article or paragraph a sealed envelope, outside which is written the title of the contents only, and inside the title of the contents with the author's full name and address. The covering envelope in the case of Competition 1, and the postcard in Competition 3, should bear the words "Prize Competition."

The Editor reserves to herself the right to publish any of the articles or paragraphs received for the competition. In such event payment will be made at the current rate; such article or paragraph to become the property and copyright of the BRITISH JOURNAL OF NURSING.

All competitions must be addressed to the Editor, at 20, Upper Wimpole Street, London, W.

Notices.

THE SOCIETY FOR THE STATE REGISTRATION OF TRAINED NURSES.

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, 431, Oxford Street, W. Six copies, post free, 7d.

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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