

mopped out; and then be placed in strong carbolic lotion or some other antiseptic, and afterwards dried. The new form of spittoon, namely, the Seabury & Johnson patent, is the best kind to have in use in sick wards.

These spittoons are a form of strong sanitary paper case, made to fit as a double lining into a small square tin box, with handle and lid; the linings can be taken out whole, and burnt with contents, and the tin cases swabbed with carbolic, or even boiled.

An old-fashioned method was to have a quantity of antiseptic fluid at the bottom of each cup or spittoon, and emptied down the drain, then placed under a running tap; this was most unpleasant when dealing with very offensive or tenacious sputum.

HONOURABLE MENTION.

The following competitors receive honourable mention:—Miss Dora Vine, Miss Macintyre, Miss J. Robinson, Miss G. James.

Some competitors have advised that disinfectant should be placed at the bottom of the clean sputum cups by the bedside of the patients, but, unless it is absolutely non-poisonous, this should never be done. A patient may easily mistake it for a drink, and deaths have occurred from such accidents.

QUESTION FOR NEXT WEEK.

How would you prepare for use:—(a) Chromic catgut, (b) gum-elastic catheter, (c) silk, (d) horsehair?

THE MATRONS' COUNCIL OF GREAT BRITAIN AND IRELAND.



The Annual Meeting of the Matrons' Council will be held at 431, Oxford Street, London, W., on Friday, January 21st, at 3.45 p.m. After the Business Meeting has been concluded there will be Tea. At 5 p.m. there will be a Meeting of the National Council of Trained Nurses, at which Miss Annie Hulme and Miss Beatrice Kent will present a Report, as delegates to the Meeting of the International Council of Nurses and Nurses' Convention held at San Francisco, June, 1915. Miss Kent will also speak on matters of interest in connection with her tour through the United States of America and Canada.

AN IMPORTANT CIRCULAR FOR PROFESSIONAL CONSIDERATION.

We have received a letter from Miss S. A. Swift, Matron-in-Chief of the Trained Nurses' Department under the Joint War Committee, enclosing a communication from the Hon. Arthur Stanley, M.P., the Chairman of the Committee, which has been widely circulated in the hospital world. We do not at present intend to comment upon the proposed scheme of establishing a Nursing College upon the lines suggested, but as professional education, and incidentally their economic condition, are of vital importance to all trained nurses, and as for some time past these questions have been privately discussed by certain hospital governors and matrons, without any intimation having been given to the Nurses' Organizations, we are of opinion that members of such bodies should meet and carefully discuss their own affairs.

To enable trained nurses to take legitimate counsel together, a meeting of the Executive Committee of the Society for the State Registration of Trained Nurses will be held at 431, Oxford Street, London, W., on Saturday next, 8th January, at 4 p.m.—at which members of the Society may be present—to consider the Circular Letter from the Hon. Arthur Stanley, and to take such action thereon as may seem advisable. Those Matrons and nurses who have for so many years devoted so much time and thought to the better organization of their profession will, we hope, make every effort to be present, to take part in the deliberations. In the meanwhile may we urge them to read carefully and give due consideration to the appended Letter, which contains highly controversial suggestions.

ETHEL G. FENWICK

(President, National Council of Trained Nurses).

JOINT WAR COMMITTEE.

Chairman:

The Hon. ARTHUR STANLEY, M.V.O., M.P.

Vice-Chairman:

Col. Sir HERBERT CHARLES PERROTT, Bt., C.B.

83, Pall Mall, London, S.W.,

30th December, 1915.

DEAR SIR,—During my past year's work as Chairman of the Joint War Committee of the British Red Cross Society and Order of St. John I have been struck by the total lack of organization amongst the various authorities responsible for the training of Nurses and by the need for organization amongst the Nurses

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