

WHAT TO READ.

- INDISCRIMINATE CHARITY.—*Queen*, May 12th, page 557.
 MR. DASH ON SMOKING.—*The Lady*, May 10th, page 411.
 WOMAN'S WORK AND WAGES. By David Schloss.—*Longman's*, May.

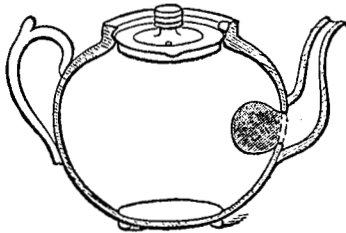
NOTICES OF BOOKS.

HENRY'S POSOLOGICAL AND THERAPEUTIC TABLES. Containing the Doses, Actions, and Uses of the Medicines in the British Pharmacopœia, with Poisons. Third edition, revised and enlarged. Maclachlan and Stewart, 64, Southbridge, Edinburgh; and Simpkin, Marshall and Co., London. Price 2s.

This is a most useful compilation—we may truly term it the "waistcoat-pocket pharmacopœia"—and is useful alike to practitioner, student, and nurse, and when in a future edition an appendix of new official preparations (*vide* "Squire's Companion to the Pharmacopœia") is added, the little work will be perfect.

NOTES UPON INVENTIONS.

BOWMAN'S PATENT TEA AND COFFEE POT.



THIS is an article which ought to be used by householders in general, and by nurses in particular. It consists of a small white metal strainer, made to fix easily at the inner end of the spout, and can be readily removed for cleaning, which is simply done by allowing the water from the tap to run through the mesh for a few moments; the tea is thus perfectly strained without any further trouble. In addition, a safety lid has been provided, very simple in its action, and which once and for all should remove any existing fear of scalding or breakage, which only too often occurs with the teapots possessing the ordinary lids. They are economical in price, and made in earthenware and metal, and will, we have no doubt, be freely purchased. To hospitals and kindred institutions they are invaluable. The temporary offices and show-rooms are 472, Brixton Road, S.W.

LADIES having a connection among Hospitals, Nursing and similar Institutions, or interested in nursing work in London and the provinces, can increase their incomes by obtaining subscribers for an important new weekly and monthly publication. Liberal commission.—Apply, by letter only, to Manager, "Nursing Record," St. Dunstan's House, Fetter Lane, London.

CORRESPONDENCE.

** We do not hold ourselves responsible for opinions expressed by our Correspondents. Brevity and conciseness will have first consideration. See notices.

To the Editor of "The Nursing Record."

SIR,—The Editor of the *British Medical Journal* remarks on a letter of mine on the subject of the Nurses' Pension Fund: "We believe that self-respect and self-help will be found to be the dominant principles by which the great body of nurses are animated." The question is, do nurses require help or not? They give all the best years of their lives to work which, however much they may love it, is always hard, often dangerous, and notoriously underpaid. If, from this small payment, they are able to provide for their old age, why all this commotion about helping them? On the other hand, if they are not able to make that provision, why fling their want of self-respect in their faces, when they seem anxious to be helped?

I think that Government officials, their widows and daughters, would be surprised if they were accused of want of self-respect, because they thankfully accept the pensions which, in their case, are freely given; and it does seem rather hard, that because nurses have been led to expect some real assistance, and are disappointed at finding the terms as impossible for them as those of any Life Insurance Company, that, therefore, they should be taunted on all sides with want of self-respect.

The Editor goes on to say that all that is required of nurses is to pay one-eighth of their yearly income to the fund. This all nurses could and would gladly do, but has there been any question of it until within the last fortnight? The one-eighth scale is spoken of in last week's *Hospital* as a "concession," and is intended only for nurses over a certain age. They, it seems, are to be kept in the dark as to what sum they will be likely to receive on retiring. They are asked to "have confidence in those who have the management of the fund." This is treating sensible women like children. They may have the greatest confidence in the present managers (who, however, will not live for ever), but business is business and not sentiment, and it would be only business-like to let them know, at any rate, the minimum pension they will receive. Their expectations will not be great.—I am, &c.,

A NURSE.

To the Editor of "The Nursing Record."

SIR,—In answer to Madge's enquiries, I have known ladies who were non-resident who have been permitted to work in the wards of St. George's Hospital, Hyde Park Corner. Information on the subject could doubtless be obtained by writing to the Lady Superintendent of that hospital.—M.C.

To the Editor of "The Nursing Record."

SIR,—I must congratulate you on the success of your scheme to award a prize for an essay. I have read with very great pleasure Miss Lock's paper on "What constitutes an Efficient Nurse," and especially rejoice to see that she recommends *years*, not *months*,

[previous page](#)

[next page](#)