

During the 22 years of the school's existence, 464 Nurses have been graduated. More than 60 of these are occupying positions as Superintendents or head Nurses in other Hospitals, while the greater number are actively engaged in private Nursing.

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It is perfectly true that the missionary spirit is very keen in most women, appearing in different forms according to temperament and type. Some Nurses in Minneapolis have banded themselves together, and, notwithstanding the philanthropic nature of average Nursing—even when it is paid for—have determined to make a yearly sacrifice in the cause of charity.

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These trained Nurses of Minneapolis, Minn., have formed an organization to be called the Minneapolis Trained Nurses' Association, the object being to bring the Nurses into a closer and warmer friendship, and provide for regular meetings for mutual improvement. The members pledge themselves to work for five dollars per week for two weeks in each year, when a physician desires their services and states that the patient cannot pay more. In this way it is hoped to help a large number of deserving people, who may need the best care during severe illness.

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A CURIOUS little custom has arisen among some trained Nurses in America of adopting the title as if it were a degree. Thus: Miss Smith, T.N., indicates that Miss Smith has been through her Hospital course and is a trained Nurse. We know several married Nurses—especially those who have married doctors—who describe themselves on their cards as Mrs. —, T.N., and they explain that by this they mean to show that they are proud of their calling, and that they have not lost interest in their former profession.

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A VALUED correspondent who holds a high position in the Nursing world of America, writes: "I study the NURSING RECORD with deep interest, for you are indeed piloting the Nursing profession through a most important transition period. I wish you entire success, and feel sure that your aim must finally be reached. But I wonder, sometimes, if the process of evolution will keep us all muddling along as long as the medical profession has done, I mean in this country. Quackery seems almost like a germ disease, bound to run its course. But you may find an antitoxin."

Medical Matters.

ASEPTIC MIDWIFERY.



It is now generally recognised that the great reduction which has taken place, in recent years, in midwifery mortality, is due chiefly to the use of greater antiseptic precautions than were formerly considered necessary or advisable. Statistics prove beyond a shadow of a doubt that, by such carefulness, the chances of puerperal fever can be reduced to a minimum; and that, therefore, this dreaded disease is largely under control. Absolute cleanliness of the patient, of her attendants, and of her room, is the first essential in the prevention of septicæmia. The use of strong antiseptic vaginal injections before and during labour are generally quite unnecessary, and are perhaps even detrimental; the employment, especially, of strong solutions of corrosive sublimate which were widely recommended for this purpose, some few years ago, has justly fallen into disfavour, in consequence of the harmful results which have occasionally followed. Some patients are very liable to suffer from symptoms of poisoning when mercury in even small doses is administered to them; and the injection of a strong solution of so powerful a drug as the perchloride of mercury at a time when absorption from bruised or torn surfaces is peculiarly possible, has caused many of the best midwifery practitioners to discard the remedy. Then, again, it is proved that douches, by drying the natural and lubricant secretion of the vagina during labour, can cause considerable extra difficulty to the passage of the fetus, and that therefore such injections may do harm rather than good. It is, however, a good general rule that whenever much tearing of the tissues has occurred, or when instruments have been employed, warm dilute injections of Condy's fluid, of Sanitas, or of some other non-poisonous antiseptic may be most valuable in securing an aseptic condition, and therefore in preventing blood-poisoning.

SULPHONAL.

THE use of this drug as a sleep producer is now well recognised, because it is found, in the majority of instances, to cause a quiet and refreshing slumber without possessing the many disadvantages of opium and similar anodynes. The drug, moreover, has been found to be valuable in preventing the excessive action of the skin which occurs in the course of exhausting illnesses. It is, therefore, very useful in the treatment of the night sweats of phthisis—a few grains given the last thing at night

[previous page](#)

[next page](#)