

Prize Questions.

A PRIZE of One Guinea will be awarded each quarter to the nurse who has the highest number of marks for answers to the RECORD questions during the preceding three months.

Answers to each question must not exceed 250 words, and must reach the Editor, at 20, Upper Wimpole Street, not later than the 20th of each month.

QUESTIONS FOR FEBRUARY.

- (1) How can the Nurse à la Mode be abolished?
- (2) Describe the most palatable method of administering a dose of castor oil.

(For Conditions see our Advertisement re Prizes.)

Comments and Replies.

REPLIES TO CORRESPONDENTS.

Mrs. C. T., London.—We should imagine that your daughter is not strong enough for the arduous duties of nursing. We agree with you that twelve and thirteen hours a day is too long to be on duty, especially in London, where the air is not invigorating. No doubt she would have a better chance of success if she were to try and get work in a seaside hospital.

Miss A. Lambert, Folkestone.—We regret that MSS. is not quite suitable for insertion in the NURSING RECORD.

We quite recognise the difficulty of procuring highly trained nurses to work in rural districts, but we must contend that even "cottage helps" should receive one year's experience before they can be of real value in nursing the poor in their own homes. We strongly disapprove of a system of training (?) where no practical experience is given in a sick ward. We hope that before long our workhouse wards may be so organised all over the country that experience may be gained in them by those desirous of nursing the poor in rural districts. The clinical material is there—why not utilise it?

Sister Alice, Birmingham.—We are glad you find the RECORD useful. We hope you will find time to contribute to the correspondence columns.

Miss A. Thompson, Dover.—We will deal with the question next week. It is one of great interest.

Nurse A. Long, Cork.—We regret to hear that short terms of training are having such disastrous effects in some American cities. It is inevitable that overcrowding should lower fees, and when a living wage becomes impossible the workers naturally deteriorate. Women's work in nearly every department is rising in value. Journalistic work is well paid, but individual talent tells in this sphere, whilst in nursing, interest, and not efficiency, often takes precedence.

Miss E. Somers, London.—Enter a training School where the term of training is three years in the wards. Wait for a vacancy. You can utilise the time by studying elementary anatomy, physiology, and cooking. No knowledge is ever thrown away.

L. M. G.—Contribution received. The "Echo" prize of 5s. is given for "A Paragraph of Nursing News." Your contribution does not come under that heading. Why not send answers to "Prize Questions"?

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