

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 MARCH.

- I.—What training would constitute an efficient mental nurse?
- II.—Describe the best method of sterilising surgical dressings.

(For Conditions see our Advertisement re Prizes.)

Comments and Replies.

REPLIES TO CORRESPONDENTS.

Matron, Birmingham.—All hospital matrons are eligible for admission to the Matrons' Council. Applications should be made in the first instance to Miss Isla Stewart, Matron St. Bartholomew's Hospital, E.C. Your application will then come before the next meeting.

Inquirer, Devonport.—There is no reason why you should not answer the Prize Questions this month, but the Prize will be awarded to the competitor who has obtained the highest number of marks for three months. The questions are set because so many nurses find a difficulty in expressing on paper facts with which they are well acquainted, and often they lose ground in an examination for this reason. Practice alone makes perfect; we hope, therefore, that the RECORD questions may be of use to nurses.

Hospital Nurse, Manchester.—The question of the treatment of the dead is exciting a great deal of interest. Undoubtedly much must be done before the mortuaries of most of our hospitals approach at all to the standard of excellence which has been obtained in other departments. The mortuaries are rarely visited by the higher officials, and are very frequently left entirely to the care of porters, so that it is not surprising that the refinement which educated women have infused into the general nursing arrangements is conspicuous for the most part by its absence when one visits the mortuaries. The mortuaries at King's College Hospital, Great Ormond Street Children's Hospital, Freidenheim, and the little chapel attached to St. Alban's, Holborn, are well worth a visit.

Miss Stacy, London.—The problem as to how the middle classes are to be nursed efficiently for a fee which it is within their power to pay, is a question which demands the earnest attention of experts in nursing matters. It has been said that in America it is only millionaires and paupers who can command skilled nursing when they are ill, and in England, if things are not quite so bad as this, still, the middle classes are undoubtedly in a much worse position with regard to obtaining trained nurses in sickness, than are the classes below them.

Staff Nurse, London.—A training in infectious work is always valuable, more especially if you intend to take up private nursing, but it should always follow, not precede a general training. We believe that in some of the hospitals of the Metropolitan Asylums Board, only those who hold a three years' certificate are eligible for the posts of charge nurses. This is distinctly a step in the right direction.

Miss G. Sully, Portsmouth.—Apply for information to the Director-General, Army Medical Department, 18, Victoria Street, S.W.

Probationer H., London.—Your friend should try the Humanised Milk from the Aylesbury Dairy Co., St. Petersburg Place, W.

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