

crime for a nurse in her easy chair, within a few yards of and in full view of her patient, to allow herself to doze? Is it, on some nights, within human possibility to prevent it? Short of actually pacing the room or ward, and so either disturbing what one's chief duty is to promote and guard, or if not this, rendering oneself incapable for the next—it may be some sudden and unexpected—call on one's mental and bodily powers. Sleeping proper I am, of course, not advocating! Merely that transient "forgetting oneself," when the slightest sound recalls one in an instant. Is this for those "keeping watch by night" a crime? Is there to this rule "no exception"?

Yours sincerely,
NURSE MARY.

While we must unhesitatingly say that we do consider it a serious dereliction on the part of a nurse to "transiently forget herself" on night duty, we must add we feel some sympathy with "Nurse Mary." The nurses, who are on night duty with chronic cases, who do not need much attention, are those who are most to be pitied, and from personal experience we know the difficulty of the position. We have known nurses drink strong tea at intervals, stand at an open window, or turn the cold water tap over their hands in order to dispel the overpowering sleepiness which threatens to overwhelm them. That it must be combated at all costs there can be no doubt.]

Comments and Replies.

M.R.B.N.A.—We should advise you to obtain a copy of the Charter and Bye-Laws from the Secretary of the Royal British Nurses' Association, 17, Old Cavendish Street, W. Price 6d.

NOTICE.

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East London Hospital for Children, Shadwell, E., Aug. 10th, 1897.
In accordance with your request, I have pleasure in stating that "Ronuk" has been used in this Hospital for some time past, and that the same has given every satisfaction. I may add that I consider it an economy in both labour and material.
(Signed) ADELAIDE ROW, Lady Superintendent.

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(Signed) VALENTINE W. BURDEN, Master.

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An American Nurse.—The charge, or staff nurses in London hospitals are in some cases expected to wear outdoor uniform on all occasions, but it is most usual for the custom to be optional. We believe that strictly speaking only those hospitals which provide the uniform can insist upon its being worn, and even in those institutions which require most, strictly the use of out-door uniform a dispensation on special occasions can generally be obtained upon application to the matron.

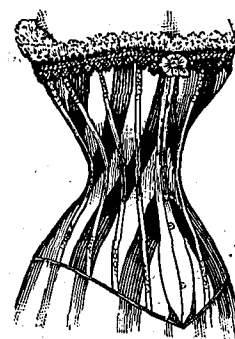
A Devonshire Matron.—We much appreciated your kind letter, which it was a pleasure to receive. It is always invigorating to know that the NURSING RECORD is useful and helpful to those for whose benefit it is primarily intended.

Nurse M., Surbiton.—We cannot advise you to go abroad in the hope of obtaining nursing work. It is most essential to have a definite appointment in view before proceeding to the Colonies, and to have a written and explicit understanding with regard to business arrangements. Otherwise, you may find yourself in very embarrassing and unpleasant circumstances.

Inquirer, Exeter.—True elephantiasis is a tropical disease, so called from the likeness of the diseased skin to that of the elephant. It runs a very chronic course, suffers from this complaint sometimes living for many years, but in considerable discomfort. Not unfrequently the legs are attacked, and become enormously enlarged and consequently deformed. No drug seems to be efficacious in treating it.

Mrs. Robinson, Croydon.—Probationers are not usually accepted for training in a general hospital until they are at least twenty-three years of age. Your daughter might be received for training at a children's hospital, and afterwards go on to a general hospital. A thorough training in the nursing of sick children will be of use to her throughout her nursing career, so that the years passed in a children's hospital would be usefully spent.

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