

Emily.—We quite appreciate your desire for training, and are sure that the experience you gain will be of the utmost value throughout the whole of your life. We do not advise you to begin with midwifery training; you would be in a position to profit much more from the experience you would gain in a lying-in hospital at the end of your general training. It is an invariable rule that a general training should always precede a special one. If you entered a lying-in hospital now you would find that much of the time which should be devoted to acquiring special knowledge would be taken up by learning the rudiments of nursing. "How to be Trained as a Hospital Nurse," which is obtainable from the Manager, NURSING RECORD Offices, 11, Adam Street, Strand, price 1s. 2d., post free, would give you much valuable information. You would probably have to wait for some time for a vacancy in any good training school; possibly in a workhouse infirmary you might gain admission sooner, but do not enter any where the matron is not a trained nurse. You might write to the sister-matron at King's College Hospital, Lincoln's Inn Fields, W.C., or to the matron of the London Homœopathic Hospital, Great Ormond Street, W.C.; and inquire when there is likely to be a vacancy for a probationer. If you find that you have to wait for some time, you might occupy your time in one of the fever hospitals, where you would get good experience in medical nursing, as well as in the various infectious fevers. If you would like this write to Miss Schooling, matron, North-Eastern Fever Hospital, Tottenham, N.; you would then begin with a salary. We do not know of any such society as you mention.

Young Matron.—The stocktaking of all linen should be carried out by the matron at least twice a year; every three months is, we think, better. If it is not the custom in your hospital, we should advise you to institute it at once, as you are, we imagine, responsible to the committee for the care of the linen, and you cannot possibly keep control over it unless you periodically inspect it. It is necessary to re-

member that all linen in use, as well as that which is soiled, and that which is at the laundry, must be counted, as well as the stock, in order that the lists may be correct. Notice should be given to the ward sisters of the stocktaking on the previous day, in order that they may have their linen in readiness, and also may instruct the night nurses in making the beds to place all the marks on sheets, blankets, etc., in one corner. This will much facilitate matters. All articles which need replacing should be noted, and then withdrawn from the stock. Good managers will ask their committees for a certain amount of new linen each year in order to keep up the supply. There is constant mending and making needed in order to keep the linen in good repair. It should always be examined when it is returned from the laundry, and any needing repair placed on one side. In institutions of any size one person can be advantageously constantly employed to repair linen, turn the sheets sides to middle when necessary, and so on. Many minor repairs are willingly undertaken by convalescents in the women's wards, who frequently find the time hang heavily upon their hands. The supervision of a large stock of linen is one of the most arduous and monotonous which falls to the lot of a matron. A very sharp look-out must be kept upon the laundry, and upon the transit of linen from the store room to the wards. Nothing is easier than for considerable quantities of linen to be stolen if strict supervision is not systematically exercised.

Nurse P., Birmingham.—We shall be glad to see your invention if you will send us a sample.

Desperate, Hull.—Shoes are always a difficulty. Have you tried those of the London Shoe Company, 123, Queen Victoria Street, E.C.? They are quiet, and made in soft and pliable leathers, such as Levant and Glacé Morocco. The price also is most moderate. Changing shoes and stockings several times in the day relieves the tired aching of the feet from which most nurses suffer.

Nurse B., Londonderry.—Try Lipton's.

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For information respecting the Women's Total Abstinence Union, the formation of a Women's Total Abstinence Society for Lady Speakers, and for Publications, Badges, etc.; address to the Secretary as above.

The Official Organ, "Wings," is published monthly, 1d., or 1s. 6d. per annum, post free.

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Federated to the Women's Total Abstinence Union.

The Hon. Mrs. **ELIOT YORKE**, Hamble, CHIF,
Netley, Southampton, President.

This League was formed February 14th, 1897, in order to unite all Nurses who are Total Abstainers, and encourage them to enlist others in the Temperance Crusade.

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