

Comments and Replies.

Nurse P., Liverpool.—We should advise you not to train in monthly nursing in any institution which gives a certificate at the end of a month. Of what possible value can such a certificate, or the training which it represents, be to you? It is mere waste of money to spend it in this way. We cannot advise you to have less than three months' training in this special branch.

Mere Male, Bournemouth.—There is no general training school in Great Britain, so far as we are aware, where men can receive training in general nursing. In America, there are, we believe, various training schools which accept male probationers.

Perplexed Matron.—We should advise you to write and lay your difficulty before the Matrons' Council, of which Miss Isla Stewart, Matron of St. Bartholomew's Hospital, is Chairman. The Advisory Committee of the Council is specially appointed in order to give expert advice upon such matters.

Night Nurse, London.—We sympathise with your troubles. Many night nurses go through much the same experience.

Miss Brown, Leamington.—You can obtain covers for binding the NURSING RECORD, or you can have your numbers bound by sending to the Manager, NURSING RECORD OFFICES, 11, Adam Street, Strand.

Anxious Mother, Small Heath.—Have you tried lycopodium? This sometimes suits babies' skins when other powders fail.

Nurse P., London.—We know of no such custom, and should certainly deprecate it as a most reprehensible one.

Miss E. M., Dublin.—We announced last week that a conference has been arranged by the National Union of Women Workers to consider the advisability of forming a nursing sub-committee of the Union. We shall report the result in due course.

Obstetric Nurse, Exeter.—We should advise you to write to Messrs. Southall Bros. & Barclay, Birmingham. They make a speciality of such things, and will be able to supply you with everything you require.

Nurse M., Manchester.—We are much obliged for your letter. We are glad you find the RECORD useful to you, and hope that you will help on the work it is trying to do by advising your friends to read it also.

A. M. H.—We should advise you to obtain "How to be trained as a Hospital Nurse," price 1s. 2d., post free, from the Manager, NURSING RECORD OFFICES, 11, Adam Street, Strand. This will give you the details of the terms of service required by the various training schools. We are afraid that you will find some difficulty in obtaining a year's training in any first-rate school except as a paying probationer.

A. S. H. N.—Your inquiry is dealt with in our "Medical Matters" this week. Of course it is assumed from your account that there is no disease of the throat or chest to account for the symptom.

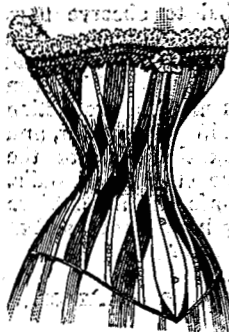
District Nurse, Birmingham.—We do not approve of the use of zinc powder for patients' backs. We do not think any matron who had had charge of hospital linen would do so, as the use of it certainly would have the effect of blackening the sheets. For ordinary cases the use of methylated spirits, and a dusting powder, such as starch powder, or lycopodium, after the back has been washed with soap and water, is quite sufficient. The habit prevalent in some institutions of using spirit and starch powder without washing the back is most objectionable. The custom of rubbing zinc ointment into a back is a very nasty one. We do not of course refer to a dressing spread on lint for an open bed sore, but we conclude you mean rubbing ointment into a sound back as a preventative, which is, we know, sometimes advocated. Balsam of Peru, after sloughs have been removed by fomentations, or by the old-fashioned charcoal poultices, is a time-honoured dressing for bed sores, and a very good one.

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