

Notices.

OUR PRIZE PUZZLE.

May we remind our readers that this month's coupons for the prize puzzle competition end this week. The Editor received quite a number of replies last month after the appointed date, and too late for a chance of the Guinea Prize. Letters containing replies must reach her by the first post on Tuesday, April 30th prox.

Copies of the NURSING RECORD are always on sale at 269, Regent Street, price 1d. As this address is close to Oxford Circus, it will be found a Central Depot.

Comments and Replies.

Country Matron.—The departments of a hospital resolve themselves practically into three, the medical, secretarial, and nursing and domestic. Each department should be directly responsible through its official head to the Committee of Management, whose duty it is to maintain the balance of power between the three. When any one department is made subordinate to the other, and does not report directly upon its own concerns, trouble is sure to arise sooner or later. We think that if you represented to your Committee the desirability that your report should be received by them without intermediary intervention they would probably endorse your view.

Practical.—We should advise you to obtain a book on "Nursing Ethics," by Mrs. Hampton Robb, which has just been published by J. B. Savage, 90, Wood Street, Cleveland, Ohio, U.S.A. You would probably get it most easily in this country through Messrs. G. T. Putnam, 24, Bedford

Street, Strand. In it Mrs. Robb points out that the professional work of private nurses is rarely found fault with by the public, but defects of manner, want of savoir faire, and faults of character are often brought up against them. She urges that Nursing Ethics should be taught systematically and regularly by Training School Superintendents during the probationary period, when many pitfalls would be avoided in private nursing by graduate nurses. There is little doubt that so far training schools have been slow to grasp their responsibilities upon this matter, probably your own amongst the number. You cannot, therefore, do better than obtain the above mentioned book, which is full of valuable suggestions.

Chest Hospital Pro.—The differential diagnosis between hæmatemesis and hæmoptysis has been given as follows:—Hæmatemesis: the hæmorrhage is preceded by nausea or sense of weight in the epigastrium, blood dark brown, often contains particles of undigested food, acid reaction, blood is vomited, pain in epigastrium, stools often darkened by blood. Hæmoptysis: preceded by saltish taste in the mouth, blood is bright red and frothy, alkaline reaction, blood usually coughed up, physical signs show disease of lungs or heart, stools unaffected.

Mrs. A., Southampton.—We should advise your daughter to enter a hospital at some distance from home. It is very unsettling for a new probationer to run home every day in her time off duty, and often causes disagreeables in the institution by gossip.

Sister Amy, Bristol.—You can obtain this journal from Messrs. Hayward and Co., 1, Corn Street, Bristol. Every nurse should read a professional paper weekly, and this journal is the only one in this country edited by a trained nurse, and which supports State Registration of Nurses. Lay men and women, who compile a so-called professional journal inevitably miss the key note of its usefulness, and unfortunately lower the whole tone of our work. Such papers are merely commercial speculations, and dare not speak out about nursing abuses. They more often than not pander to the powers that be—to the disadvantage of the nurse.

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