

## Notices.

### OUR PRIZE PUZZLE.

Rules for competing for the Pictorial Puzzle Prize will be found on Advertisement page VIII.

*In consequence of innumerable complaints, we would advise our readers in provincial towns to order their NURSING RECORD through Messrs. Smith & Son's Bookstall at the Railway Station. In case they have any difficulty in obtaining it in this manner each week, we shall be glad if they will write a post card to the Manager, at the NURSING RECORD Office 11, Adam Street, Strand, W.C.*

## Comments and Replies.

*Mrs. Aldridge.*—Our contention is that when religious sisters wish to act as trained nurses they must undergo the same training, both in kind and duration, and the same examinations as other nursing pupils. The only test of a trained nurse is professional competency and personal suitability, not her religious character. The day has surely gone by for a woman to imagine that she can veil or atone for her ignorance by religion. She must stand or fall on her nursing qualifications alone. At the same time, provided that she is thoroughly qualified as a nurse, we by no means wish to underrate the power for good—the power of silent example for the most part—of a religious sister in a hospital or infirmary ward.

*Matron, Infectious Hospital.*—We should advise you to apply to Messrs. A. Boake Roberts and Co., Ltd., Stratford, E., for information respecting sulphume, the aerial disinfectant supplied by them. This is used by the

War Office, as well as by hospitals and sanitary authorities, and an advantage is that there is no risk of fire from its use.

*Sister B.*—A book recently reviewed in this journal, "Bacteriology and Surgical Technique for Nurses," by Miss Emily M. Armstrong-Stoney, published by W. B. Saunders and Co., 161, Strand, W.C., is the best we know on the subject.

*Would-be Probationer.*—There is at present no definite standard of knowledge required of probationers before entering a hospital. Some training schools require evidence of general education, some few have instituted a preliminary examination. The London Hospital and the Glasgow Royal Infirmary require probationers to go through a course of training in the preliminary schools which they have organized, before they are allowed to enter the wards for their practical work. Ultimately it is probable that courses of preliminary education will be organized in connection with a central college or colleges, as the expense of arranging for this education in connection with each training school is considerable, and in the case of the smaller schools the number of pupils is too few to be satisfactory.

*High School Teacher.*—Our nursing schools are daily becoming more and more recognized as educational centres, and the course for pupils is now, in our best organized institutions, being planned on the collegiate basis. Medical schools have long been recognized as belonging to educational agencies, but the scope of a nurse's training has been more obscured from the fact that in the first instance she was required to perform much of the domestic work as well as her own special duties. The work of a nurse in these days does not include anything which may not reasonably be held to belong to her province if surgical cleanliness is to be attained. Not the least valuable part of her education is the thorough instruction she receives in scientific cleanliness.

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STANLEY SMITH, Secretary.

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