

**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.**

*Pro bono publico.*—It is to be regretted that the public, as a whole, do not appreciate the enormous stake they have in the efficient training of nurses. It is they who are ultimately the sufferers from inefficient nurses, and they who should insist on the enforcement of some minimum standard of education, on the proper equipment of the schools which profess to teach nursing, and, as in the case of medical schools, on the recognition only of such hospitals as nursing schools as have an adequate training ground. At present every hospital fixes its own term and standard of training and certifies its pupils after or without examination as seems best to it.

*Matron, Manchester.*—The stock of linen both for the wards and for the nurses' home, should be replenished annually so that the stock never gets really low. It is part of a Matron's duty to take stock of the linen, and this should be done twice a year, at least.

*Staff Nurse.*—The best method of keeping a child flat in

bed is by means of two armlets which may be made of Turkey twill, or some other soft material, attached across the chest by a piece of the same material. A broad bandage or a webbing strap should then be passed through the under side of these armlets and under the bed, and tied on the other side. This will keep the child quite flat, and at the same time be comfortable, and cause no unnecessary restriction.

*Miss P., Blackpool.*—We are always glad to consider articles on practical nursing subjects with a view to publication.

*Miss P., London.*—We do not advise you to open a private nursing home unless you have considerable capital to invest and assurance of influential support. The homes in London now are legion, and although many of them are not under trained supervision these receive support, and in our opinion there is no demand for more. The whole question of private nursing homes is one which requires investigation and reform. Eventually we hope they will be licensed and inspected. The reputable homes would welcome this measure, and the public would be protected from those which are inefficient and undesirable, but which at present flourish, and will continue to do so just so long as medical men send patients into them.

*Obstetric Nurse.*—We think it is a mistake to arrange a Maternity Hospital on the same plan as a general hospital. It is far preferable to have a number of small wards containing not more than two beds. The advantages of this plan are (1) there is no need to move the patient after labour is over, as she can remain in the same ward throughout, the second bed being kept empty at the time of the labour, and a convalescent patient moved into it afterwards. (2) If a patient has a rise of a temperature or develops symptoms which may prove of septic origin, she can at once be isolated, and there is no risk of infection of other patients, which is almost inevitable in a general ward. (3.) These small wards can be fumigated as each patient leaves, and so can always be kept free from the germs of disease.

## THE HOSPITAL FOR WOMEN, SOHO SQUARE, W.

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Incorporated by Royal Charter, 1887.

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Treasurer—F. A. BEVAN, Esq.

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STANLEY SMITH, Secretary.

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