

escape the malarious environment of the shore. It seemed reasonable, therefore, to argue that our patients would be put into the most favourable surroundings if they were nursed in an organised floating hospital. An ordinary passenger ship is by no means an ideal place for a person who is seriously ill, and an additional consideration is that a small nursing staff must be depleted to send a nurse with the patient. On going into the cost of maintaining a floating hospital, however, it was found not only that the initial expense would be very great, but also that the cost of maintenance would largely exceed that of a hospital on land, and, greatly to my regret, the scheme has never seemed practicable for financial reasons. The benefit and pleasure of short cruises to convalescents in such a hospital ship would, in a tropical region, where there is no escape to the hills, be incalculable.

I am, dear Madam,
Yours faithfully,
A BELIEVER IN SEA BREEZES.

Comments and Replies.

Miss M. H. Smith.—Miss Child, the late Matron of the Memorial Hospital at Bulawayo, Rhodesia, is now in England, and would be able to give you good advice on the subject. A letter, enclosing a stamp for a reply, should be addressed to her at 269, Regent Street, W. It must be remembered that work in South Africa is harder and rougher than at home, and that the expense of living is very high. Pioneer work is wanted, but pioneers need special qualities, notably endurance, pluck, and resource.

Guy's Nurse, Birmingham.—The Register is most useful and helpful, so far as it goes (and you should have your name inscribed), but gives no legal status to those whose names appear in its pages; such status can only be obtained by an Act of Parliament, and this we hope to get in time. Join the Society for State Registration of Trained Nurses. Read Miss Gardner's able little paper carefully in our issue of July 26th—"A Question of Character." She presents another view of the question.

Certificated Nurse.—We are sorry to say that you would be ineligible for the best nursing co-operations, as you do not hold a three years' certificate of training. The three years standard has now been recognised as the lowest compatible with efficiency for a considerable period, and it is to be regretted that you did not realise this when beginning your training. As you are still young, we should advise you to begin afresh and gain a three years' certificate in a first-class training school. Even if you went into another hospital for a year, you would not gain the same standing subsequently as if you had a three years' certificate, and you would be debarred from holding many public appointments.

Private Nurse.—Certainly a watch is an essential part of a private nurse's equipment, and it should have a second hand, otherwise pulses cannot be taken with accuracy. The "Canute" watch supplied by Messrs. Garrould, of 150 Edgware Road, which is fitted with a second hand, costs only one guinea, and each watch is guaranteed.

Probationer B.—You would find Hoblyn's Dictionary of Medical Terms quite invaluable in helping you to take an intelligent interest in the cases you nurse. It is published by Whittaker and Co., 2, White Hart Street, Paternoster Square, price 10s. 6d. We should advise you each evening to look up any new word which you have met with in the course of the day. There are a few standard books which every nurse should possess, and this is one of them.

Notices.

CONTRIBUTIONS.

The Editor will at all times be pleased to consider articles of a suitable nature for insertion in this journal—those on practical nursing are specially invited. The Editor will also be pleased to receive paragraphs, such as items of nursing news, results of nurses' examinations, new appointments, reports of hospital functions, also letters on questions of interest to nurses, and newspapers marked with reports of matters of professional interest.

Such communications must be duly authenticated with name and address, not necessarily for publication, but as evidence of good faith, and should be addressed to the Editor, 20, Upper Wimpole Street, London, W.

A HELPING HAND.

The Editor will be greatly obliged if regular subscribers who receive an additional copy of this journal, will pass it on to some friend who is likely to be interested in the aims of the journal, and also if they will encourage their friends to become subscribers.

OUR PRIZE PUZZLE.

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

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