

legitimate and praiseworthy aspiration. But to my mind a still higher and more praiseworthy ambition on the part of a woman keen about her professional work, and possessed of good abilities, is to put on one side personal ambitions, to leave the professional "plums" to the hundreds who are anxious and competent to discharge the duties connected with them, and to place her skilled work and knowledge at the service of the native races in countries where trained nursing is unknown, and of her own countrymen and countrywomen who are nobly endeavouring in unhealthy climates and under trying conditions to carry out the last command of their Divine Master to "preach the Gospel to every creature."

What has raised the profession we love to its present level? Surely the spirit of self-sacrifice which animated such women as Agnes Jones, and many who have followed in her footsteps—women whose inspiration is the service of the sick, who work for the better organisation of their profession as a means to this end, and who are content to lay down their lives to further it. To those animated by this spirit, work in connection with foreign missions affords an attractive field of work. It is good that we should consider rather what we can give than what we can get, and it is only by cherishing this spirit that we shall ever maintain the high ideals set before us by the women whose names we revere, who have removed our work from the hands of convicts and paupers, and shown its beauty and infinite possibilities.

I am, dear Madam,
Yours faithfully,
A MISSIONARY NURSE.

Comments and Replies.

Mrs. Parsons.—Many hospital authorities leave it entirely to the discretion of their nursing staff when off duty whether they wear outdoor uniform or not, and many nurses are discarding it. It no longer affords the protection which it ensured to the wearer years ago, as nursing uniform is now used by all sorts and conditions of persons, many of whom have never been inside a hospital, nurses also have learnt that, whether outdoor uniform is worn or not, the dress worn in the wards should always be changed, or, on returning to them, it may introduce the germs of disease with which it has come in contact in the streets. Many, therefore, prefer to don an ordinary coat and skirt.

Future Probationer.—The Nursing Directory, issued under the authority of the Matrons' Council, and published at the offices of the BRITISH JOURNAL OF NURSING, price 5s., will give you all the information you require.

Twenty-one.—If you intend to take up nursing as your profession ultimately, you will do well to gain as much experience as possible beforehand in the ordinary duties of a good housewife, as well as in good plain cooking. Every woman should be proficient in these things, and the nurse training school should not have to teach these subjects in addition to the specialised knowledge to the attainment of which the three years of probation should be devoted. We hear much about the virtues of the domestic woman; but we do not, as a rule, find that her daughters know how to turn out a room or make a bed.

Monthly Nurse.—It is very important to prevent any traction on the cord at the time of birth. It may be prejudicial in two ways: (1) by partly detaching the placenta from its site, and so conducing to maternal hæmorrhage, and (2) by causing a protruding navel in the infant.

Notices.

EDITORIAL RECIPROCIITY.

We are informed that many nurses in America do not subscribe to this journal because of the trouble of obtaining a foreign money order, and *vice versa*, with English nurses in reference to the *American Journal of Nursing*. The Editors of these two journals, whose aims and policy are identical, have therefore arranged to make things easy for these busy nurses, and, to save trouble, will receive and forward subscriptions. Thus any subscriber to this journal wishing to subscribe for the American journal may send the 10s. 6d., with the address to which she wishes the journal sent, to The Manager, BRITISH JOURNAL OF NURSING Office, 11, Adam Street, Strand, W.C., and it will then be duly forwarded to the publishing office of the American journal at Philadelphia. Thus a cheque for 17s. will enable those interested in nursing matters to receive both journals for twelve months without further trouble.

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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