

exposed to the patient's view? I have known most serious results from allowing the patient to watch the preparations for an operation. Surely the patient might be kept behind screens and placed under an anæsthetic before being moved on to the table or taken into the theatre, where several surgeons got up in professional white garb, an array of instruments, and innumerable dressings are all exposed to view—with nervous shock as the result. I hope this airing of my grievance may meet the eye of those responsible for such bad arrangements, both Sisters and surgeons.

Yours,

A MOTHER.

THE CARE OF INCURABLES.

To the Editor of the "British Journal of Nursing."

DEAR MADAM,—It was with pleasure that I read in your last issue your remarks on the care of incurable and dying cases. It always seems to me that the nurse who dislikes such cases must have a very imperfect realisation of the real meaning of her work, but none know better than chronic invalids how many such nurses there are.

Yours obediently,

A SUFFERER.

Comments and Replies.

Gorran.—We should advise you to apply to the Hospitals and General Contracts Company, Limited, 33, Mortimer Street, London, W. We think you would obtain what you require through this firm.

Three Years' Certificate.—There is no Matron-in-Chief of Queen Alexandra's Royal Naval Nursing Service. Application should be made to the Medical Director-General, at the Admiralty, Whitehall, S.W.

Miss Evans.—We cannot advise you to enter any institution for training in which the course does not extend over three years. You would find yourself disqualified for many important appointments after you had gained your certificate, notably for those in connection with Government departments, and with leading private nursing associations.

Country Matron.—(1) In a public institution supported by the contributions of persons of all varieties of creeds, and with no creeds at all, the religious test should not enter the qualifications of candidates. They should be selected solely on their professional suitability. (2) All probationers must be prepared to conform to regulations laid down for the general good, and you are quite within your right in refusing to allow members of the nursing staff to attend places of worship at inconvenient hours. (3) The establishment of a roll-call before prayers, at which all nurses should be required to answer to their names, would probably meet the difficulty.

Infirmiry Nurse.—We should advise you, if possible, to obtain some experience in a well-managed nursing home before taking up private nursing. We think you need this added experience to qualify you for the niceties of nursing in private houses.

Mrs. Edmonds.—You will not be likely to receive applications for the post of district nurse from well-trained nurses at the salary which you offer. Competent nurses can, as private nurses, command fees of £2 2s. to £3 3s. a week, in addition to board and lodging, and therefore are naturally not attracted by an offer of 30s. a week with neither. We think from £100 to £120 a year is the lowest salary which would be likely to attract applications from really satisfactory candidates.

Notices.

EDITORIAL RECIPROCITY.

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.

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.

OUR PRIZE PUZZLE

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

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