

prevent oozing. That, I think, is effected by using blunt scissors to cut the cord, and also by squeezing the gelatinous cord, and so the vessels which it contains, between one's fingers before it is severed. We all know that it is the sharp, clean cuts which are most liable to bleed. In a vessel which is bruised, as, for instance, with blunt scissors, not only does the usual contraction of the cut end take place, decreasing the lumen of the vessel, but the inner coats curl up inside, still further blocking it, and clotting quickly takes place. This, with care in putting on a second ligature after the bath, is usually sufficient.

I have never known a serious case of hæmorrhage from a cut cord. I have known of one from the navel, after separation had taken place. In that case the ordinary method of applying pressure, and also styptics failed to stop the hæmorrhage, and the bleeding vessels were ultimately transfixed subcutaneously with hare-lip pins by the medical attendant. I should like to mention, in conclusion, that nurses should beware of applying styptics, such as some of the preparations of iron, although hæmorrhage may be arrested by their causing speedy clotting, yet severe sloughing sometimes occurs subsequently.

I am, dear Madam, yours faithfully,
MATRON.

Comments and Replies.

We regret that many letters are unavoidably held over for want of space. One of considerable length from Miss Jane Wilson, President of the Midwives' Institute, on the subject of our remarks as to the direct representation of midwives on the Central Midwives' Board, we shall publish and deal with next week. This week much of our space is devoted to the question of the direct representation of nurses on their Governing Body.

Ward Sister.—There are many patterns of sputum flasks, but experts say that the ideal one has still to be evolved. You might visit the establishment of Messrs. Allen and Hanburys, 48, Wigmore Street, W. They take a keen interest in the subject and would show you various patterns.

Shamrock.—We know of no such Irish paper, we presume the vacancies are advertised in the daily press. You might write to the Secretary to the Local Government Board, Custom House, Dublin, asking for information.

D. E. S.—You probably have Miss Isla Stewart's book, "Practical Nursing." You would find "Surgical Nursing and the Principles of Surgery for Nurses," by Russell Howard, F.R.C.S., published by Edward Arnold, price 6s., a good elementary text book on this subject; "Nursing, its Principles and Practice," by Isabel Adams Hampton (Mrs. Hampton Robb), ranks as a classic. It is published by W. B. Saunders, 925, Walnut Street, Philadelphia. "Lessons in Disinfection and Sterilisation," by Dr. F. W. Andrewes, published by Messrs. J. and A. Churchill, 7, Great Marlborough Street, W., price 3s., is most useful. "Urine Examination made Easy," by Dr. Thomas Carruthers, also published by Churchill, is an excellent manual.

Three Prize Competitions.

The Editor offers the following prizes:—

No. 1. PRACTICAL NURSING ARTICLE.

A prize of £2 2s. for the best article on a Practical Nursing Subject, of from 1,300 to 1,400 words. Illustrations are not compulsory, but add to the value of the article. Papers competing for this prize must be received by the Editor not later than Saturday, February 3rd. The article gaining the prize and the name or pseudonym of the prize-winner will appear on February 10th.

No. 2. PUZZLE COMPETITION.

Details will be found on page viii.

No. 3. REMINISCENCE DURING TRAINING.

A prize of 10s. 6d. for the most interesting Reminiscence during Training, not to exceed 500 words. Papers competing for this prize must be received by the Editor not later than Saturday, February 10th. The paragraph gaining the prize and the name or pseudonym of the prize-winner will be published on February 17th.

CONDITIONS GOVERNING COMPETITIONS 1 AND 3

Each competitor must enclose with his or her article or paragraph a sealed envelope, outside which is written the title of the contents only, and inside the title of the contents with the author's full name and address.

The Editor reserves to herself the right to publish any of the articles or paragraphs received for the competition. In such event payment will be made at the current rate; such article or paragraph to become the property and copyright of the BRITISH JOURNAL OF NURSING.

All competitions must be addressed to the Editor, at 20, Upper Wimpole Street, London, W.

Notices.

THE SOCIETY FOR THE STATE REGISTRATION OF TRAINED NURSES.

All those desirous of helping on the important movement of this Society to obtain a Bill providing for the Legal Registration of Trained Nurses will find an application form on Advt. page iv., or can obtain all information concerning the Society and its work from the Hon. Secretary, 431, Oxford Street, London, W.

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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