

The "non-recognised" schools should only be allowed to take probationers if they prepared them for further training. Previous training in hospital or technical college should be insisted upon, but it would be rarely necessary for the regular training schools to provide it.

In this way the supply of "unfits" would be stopped at its source, and the general efficiency of the nursing profession increased.

The following instance came to my knowledge lately. A girl of 22 spent 6 months in a special hospital. She had previously been entered at the local general hospital, but when she called to see if there were any chance of being accepted, she was told that the Matron did not care to take nurses from other hospitals. Instead of trying elsewhere she set up for herself and is now doing very well. She is always busy. Properly trained she would have been an ornament, now she is a dangerous rival to the profession. As long as probationers are selected by the caprice of Matrons without tests, on any standards and trained in the same haphazard way, it will be impossible to protect nurses from the clever outsider, whether British or foreign. Three years in a hospital does not make a nurse unless she is made of tested material.

I am, Madam, Yours sincerely,
Hove. BESSIE CAWOOD.

SPONGING AND TEMPERATURE.

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

DEAR MADAM,—I read the BRITISH JOURNAL of NURSING week by week with great interest, and find the articles on the treatment of different diseases "from a nurse's point of view" very helpful. I wonder if you will some day be able to give us one on the subject of baths—cold, medicated, etc. The last typhoid patient I nursed got a cold bath when her temperature was found at 103.5 or over.

The effect of the bath was (or seemed to be) less in exact proportion to the severity of the rigor accompanying the rise of temperature.

That is to say with a strong rigor the temperature came down only a degree or a degree and a half after ten minutes' immersion (the patient shivering the whole time), and went up again in an hour or so.

1. Suppose one had allowed the temperature to rise to the greatest height—104.5 to 105.5—and at the cessation of the rigor given a bath, would it not have caused the patient less distress, meaning one bath only, instead of two, as in the former case?

2. What is the experience, of those who are practiced, of the effect of cold bathing in the reduction of the temperature in the axilla, mouth, and rectum respectively? On one occasion the temperature in the axilla had dropped, half an hour after bath, some four degrees, in the mouth about one only, while in the rectum it was still higher than the original registered in the axilla before the bath was given.

Kashmir.

Yours sincerely,
ONE ALONE.

[Some of our readers with extensive experience of nursing enteric fever might answer these questions.—Ed.]

Three Prize Competitions.

The Editor offers the following prizes:—

No. 1. PRACTICAL NURSING ARTICLE.

A prize of £5 5s. for the best article on a Practical Nursing Subject, containing 1,500 to 1,600 words, with illustrations, of which photographs or drawings must be enclosed. Papers competing for this prize must be received by the Editor not later than Saturday, December 29th, 1906. The article gaining the prize and the name or pseudonym of the prize-winner will appear early in the New Year.

No. 2. PUZZLE COMPETITION.

Details will be found on page viii.

No. 3. A PARAGRAPH OF PRACTICAL NURSING INTEREST.

A prize of 10s. for the best paragraph, on a postcard, of practical nursing interest. See our weekly "Practical Points" column. Postcards competing for this prize must reach the Editor not later than Saturday, Jan. 5th, 1907. The paragraph gaining the prize, and the name or pseudonym of the prize-winner will be published on Saturday, Jan. 12th.

CONDITIONS GOVERNING COMPETITIONS

1 AND 3.

Each competitor for No 1 Prize 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 covering envelope in the case of Competition 1, and the postcard in Competition 3, should bear the words "Prize Competition."

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.

Those interested in the efficient organisation of nursing should procure the Annual Report of the Society for the State Registration of Trained Nurses from the Hon. Secretary, 431, Oxford Street, W. Six copies, post free, 7d.

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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