

all but hot water. Then Rhoda tasted it. Rhoda said of course it would not taste strong, like beef tea. Perhaps not, but it tasted of nothing at all but hot, greasy water.

I suggested that we had not made it right, but Rhoda began to clear away, and would not discuss the question. I wondered how people did make *real* chicken broth. At this moment I heard a knock at the door, and, thinking it was the doctor, went to open it.

It was not the doctor. It was Aunt Janet. "Oh! Aunt Janet!" I cried, "Granny is ill, and I am so glad you have come, for the chicken broth tastes of nothing at all!"

Oh! how tired I was when bedtime came. Auntie made Granny another poultice, not at all like the one I made, and Granny was to keep it on for four or five hours. Auntie says it did not take long to make. I took me a long time to make mine, and then it was only in use ten minutes. And what a mess it made! Everything seems to have a bit of poultice on it.

Auntie says the doctor sent her a telegram to ask her to come at once. I like him better for that.

Auntie also said the chicken broth was no good; it ought to have been made with a fowl and not with a little chicken. Well, how was I to know? It was called chicken broth, and naturally I thought it should be made with chicken, and not with old hen. She also said we used ten times too much water, which accounts for it tasting so much of water I suppose; but I am sorry that chicken is dead any way; it was such a pretty one.

I think when I am married and have daughters I shall send them to schools where they teach them a little cooking and nursing instead of mathematics. I learn mathematics at school, and I hate them. I do not think they will ever be of any use to me; and if I had only known how to make chicken broth and a poultice Rhoda would not now be laughing with all her friends over my ignorance, and I should not have been so deadly tired that night, and Granny would have been more comfortable. For though I worked hard all day, and had no dinner, no one was any the better for it. M.H.

A concise and simple record of instruction and examination has been arranged by Miss A. Goodrich, of Bellevue Hospital, New York, for the use of Superintendents of training-schools. Its arrangement gives a concise, detailed report of the standing and the professional work of the pupil during her complete course of training.

Professional Review. [S1] 2222.

MODERN METHODS FOR SECURING SURGICAL ASEPSIS.

This book, by Dr. Edward Harrison, F.R.C.S., Hon. Surgeon to the Hull Royal Infirmary, and published by Messrs. A. Brown and Sons, Ltd., 5, Farringdon Avenue, E.C., is one which should be in the hands of every nurse, who should make a point of mastering its contents. It deals with the routine of modern aseptic technique in a hospital and its application to operative work in private houses. The author, in his preface, acknowledges his indebtedness for the great help he has received from Miss M. Shorto, the Theatre Sister at the Royal Infirmary, Hull, and from Miss I. M. Turner, a former Sister in the theatre. Throughout the book he shows a keen appreciation of the work of nurses. Thus, in the chapter on the "Co-operation of the Assistant and Nurses," he writes:—"As a rule I have found that a good theatre sister, who thinks and reads, is far in advance of the surgeon or house-surgeon in matters of detailed technique, and there is much to be learned by noting the practice of a careful sister. Senn says:—'It is the trained, conscientious nurse of to-day who fights more than one-half of the battle, and who, as a rule, receives so little credit for her work.'" We think, however, that the author's enthusiasm carries him a little far when, in his desire for aseptic operations in private, he advocates that the appointment of the Lady Superintendent placed in charge of the surgical private hospital, which he rightly says has become a necessity in all large towns, and which would be well filled by a lady who had satisfactorily occupied the position of theatre sister in a large hospital, "should not be one of long duration, as the advance in technique is so rapid, and it would be important that the paying public should have the advantage of one who is abreast of the times." Surely anyone in such a position could keep herself abreast of the times, and it would be more to the advantage of the institution to grant a valuable official leave of absence to visit institutions in her own and other countries, and acquaint herself with the technique there practised, than to discard her as a "back number" after a few years' conscientious work.

ASEPTIC SURGERY.

As an illustration of the instinct which is acquired by prolonged training, the author tells of a nurse at the Hull Royal Infirmary who picked up a morphia suppository, which had fallen to the floor during the attempt to pass it into a rectum after an operation for hæmorrhoids, and ran with it towards the steriliser before she had noticed the absurdity of her action. He adds: "I should trust that nurse to carry out all the details of an operation."

He points out that "in a hospital the greater burden of the aseptic technique is borne by the House Surgeon and Sister, leaving the Surgeon's mind free to attend to the steps of the opera-

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