

rhage, and peritonitis are the chief complications.

Heart failure may suddenly occur. Invert patient by putting your arms under the head and shoulders; draw over side of bed low down, get someone to hold up legs, apply ammonia salts to nostrils, or break nitrite of amyl capsule; hot sponge over cardiac region. Doctor may order hypodermic of strychnine or brandy when consciousness returns. Hot-water bottles, and foot of bed raised, assist reaction. Blood in stools, pain, collapse, quick pulse suggest peritonitis; apply hot or cold applications to abdomen and raise foot of bed.

If a quantity of blood be passed after pain, with rapid pulse and collapse, suspect perforation. Give opium until doctor arrives; prepare for operation.

Enteric is a lengthy, exhausting illness, and the patient's strength must be conserved from the beginning. Stools and secretions are contagious, and if possible should be buried in lime—1 in 20 carbolic, used for drains.

While the doctor's instructions must be obeyed, nurses must use discretion during his absence. In a private house the responsibility is great, and much depends upon good nursing in enteric fever.

The nursing of enteric fever will always remain of the deepest interest to nurses, as it is *par excellence* the test of a nurse's qualities, nursing is of paramount importance, and without exaggeration it may be stated that the life of the patient often depends upon her skill, and upon her conscientious devotion to duty, that through ignorance and carelessness she may be responsible for the death of a fellow creature. From the papers sent in in reply to the above question, it is satisfactory to note how well instructed the majority of competitors are in the best methods of nursing enteric fever.

A most admirable paper was sent in by Miss M. K. Steel, but it greatly exceeded the limit of 500 words permissible in these 5s. competitions. Though disqualified for the prize, we shall have pleasure in publishing it as an independent article. The papers sent by Miss E. Barton, Miss E. H. Gibert, Miss K. Frost, and Miss E. Macnab are highly commended.

From 300 to 500 words only are permissible in reply to the questions set for the weekly 5s. competitions.

QUESTION FOR THIS WEEK.

How would you ventilate (a) a hospital ward, (b) the patient's room in a private house?

My Favourite Animal and Why.

(Concluded from page 109.)

We have been greatly interested as a devoted lover of animals in reading the little papers sent in for this competition, and rather surprised to learn how many people prefer animals useful to man, and not for their noble and lovable qualities. For instance, one prefers the domestic cow, "because of its universal use to man, supplying us with many daily comforts, viz., milk, cream, butter, cheese, to say nothing of the innumerable appetising dishes and foods made from them." We agree about its "beauty," and how it "enhances the landscape scenery," but—well, one never knows, and this gentle beast may love "Molly with the milking stool" the while it contentedly chews the cud, and it is proverbial that the breath of kine is sweet, but we prefer something a little more responsive.

With Miss K. Cook we agree that "my favourite animal is the dog, for reasons which to dog lovers must be obvious, as for sagacity, intelligence, companionship, and faithfulness, and all the good qualities which go to make up the character of a dear friend, the dog embraces them all. . . . The dog may show us in many ways the road to happiness, Christian living, and many virtues which would probably improve the character of many of us."

Miss E. C. Evans writes sympathetically of goats—in a happy childhood she and a beloved sister had each a goat as pets. "I recollect long expeditions on half-holidays to collect acorns, of which goats are very fond, for winter food; and I can see the Hampshire rustic still who advised us, "Don't 'ee give 'em too many o' they things; it beyn't no more good for beasties to have too many than fur childer to 'ave all cake."

"Goats are very particular not to eat anything at all soiled; but, given that it is clean, nothing comes amiss—a piece of soap—a basket of mushrooms—a straw hat—have all been seen to disappear.

"Then the little kids! What dear little soft, woolly animals they were! and how they appreciated a plank raised a foot from the ground, along which and over which they would jump, run and meet each other, fight, fall, and jump up again.

"Then came the milking. I had no idea that to milk was not a perfectly easy undertaking. I practised on the cows (who had more patience with the amateur), and after

[previous page](#)

[next page](#)