

Of all the mental qualifications fine perceptions are the most useful, and if these are of the quality which enables one to sense conditions so much the better for the patient. There should be power of rapid observation and deduction, love of order, keenness and enthusiasm, which are so communicable, a natural love of healing and study of the physical body, a taste for the domestic arts, the widest adaptability, a limitless resourcefulness, a strong will—the steel hand in the velvet glove—versatility, and a wide social experience.

The outlook should be bright and philosophical, extending beyond the present world, for though this may never be expressed in definite terms, it will make itself beneficially felt in every word and action, and will greatly strengthen and beautify the personal influence.

All these qualities must have been cultivated by training, wide reading, and deep thinking.

The first moral qualification is sympathy—"the one poor word which includes all our best insight and our best love"—the sympathy which gives a perfect understanding of all the pain and sorrow and complexity we contact, whether or not we have ourselves experienced it; and which fills us with an overwhelming desire to alleviate. This sympathy is usually attended by the further qualification of selflessness—a much more comfortable quality than unselfishness.

There should be the strictest conscientiousness, sense of responsibility, obedience and loyalty to superiors, the dignity which springs from self-respect, unfailing gentleness, reticence, exquisite refinement in every department of the life, a complete absence of prudery, much optimism, and serenity under all circumstances.

And, so far as poor human nature will allow, the Golden Rule should be supreme in all the work of a trained nurse.

HONOURABLE MENTION.

The following competitors receive honourable mention:—Miss Ida Barton, Miss Estelle Florence Stokes, Miss Emily Marshall, Miss Gladys Tatham, Miss Alice Rhind, Miss Kathleen O'Brien.

Speaking of moral qualifications, Miss Rhind writes:—"The great moral danger in nursing, in my opinion, is the drugging habit. Constipation and sleeplessness are often treated by mild remedies, then stronger, until presently the habit is insidiously formed, and lasting damage done to the general and nervous system. The nurse's remedy against this enemy is undeviating observance of the rules of hygiene with regard to her own personal conduct and surroundings, and if circumstances do

not permit she must simply not rest till she has altered the circumstances."

QUESTION FOR NEXT WEEK

How would you deal with severe post partum hæmorrhage in the absence of medical assistance?

We regret that the few papers sent in in answer to this week's Competition are not of sufficient interest for insertion; the Prize will not, therefore, be awarded.

APPOINTMENTS.

MATRON.

Wellingborough Cottage Hospital.—Miss E. K. Tuke has been appointed Matron. She was trained at the Southern Hospital, Manchester, and has held the position of Staff Nurse at the Manchester Children's Hospital, Sister of Children's and Accident Wards at the Ancoats Hospital, Sister of Women's and Children's Ward at the Rochdale Infirmary, Night Superintendent at the Royal Infirmary, Preston, Theatre and Ward Sister at the Coventry and Warwickshire Hospital, and Senior Sister in Theatre and Children's Wards at the Warrington Infirmary.

Sunderland Royal Infirmary.—Miss Jane Amour has been appointed Matron. She was trained at the Royal Infirmary, and has since been Sister in the same institution, and Assistant Matron for the last nine years.

Peamount Sanatorium for Consumptives, Lucan.—Miss Brennan has been appointed Matron. She was trained at the Richmond, Hardwicke and Whitworth Hospitals, Dublin, and for some years past has had charge of the Alan Ryan Home for Consumptives at the Pigeon House.

ASSISTANT MATRON.

Royal Hospital for Diseases of the Chest, City Road, London.—Miss Cooper has been appointed Assistant Matron. She was trained at King's College Hospital, and is now a Sister at the Royal Free Hospital, London.

SISTER.

Clontrea, co. Dublin, Isolation Hospital.—Miss Agnes Guinane has been appointed Sister. She was trained in the Mater Misericordiae Hospital, Dublin, and has been Nurse Matron at Fever Hospital, Drogheda, and Head Nurse at Fever Hospital, Limerick.

HEALTH VISITOR AND SANITARY INSPECTOR.

Leyton Urban District Council.—Miss Edith Holland has been appointed health visitor and sanitary inspector. She was trained at Bermondsey Infirmary, and has since been Charge Nurse at Willesden Infirmary and the Children's Sanatorium, Millfield, Littlehampton, and School Nurse at Leyton. She holds the Health Visitors' Certificate of the Royal Sanitary Institute, and the certificate of the Sanitary Inspectors' Examination Board.

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