

an impertinence to smile at unknown people, unless you are the world-beloved Patti or her peer. When I hear a woman's little involuntary laugh, or a man's half-swallowed 'Hear, hear,' I just want to do even better for them next time." Miss Dowie's simple lectures have proved so great a success that the aspirants to platform fame will do wisely to follow her example and advice. Avoid affectation. This is the gist of her written words on platform manners.

PITY the troubles of poor mistresses in Norway. A servants' union has been formed in Christiania and already is most popular with the domestics. Its programme comprises better rooms, better wages, and fixed hours on and off. With regard to the last consideration, I have often thought, when seeing girls willing to live on starvation wages rather than join the ranks of the domestic servant, it must be for the joy of having an hour or so, even if it be but an hour or so, to themselves in the day. They are ready to work for long hours—ten, eleven, twelve hours if necessary—but a servant's work is never done, say they, and there is some truth for the complaint.

AT Speldhurst, near Tunbridge, a female rate collector has been appointed recently. It is a brilliant idea surely, woman rate-collectors, for they are much more efficient for this work than men, for women are noted for being both persistent and patient, and then they hate to take "No" for an answer. VEVA KARSLAND.

THE *Nursing Record*, which earnestly devotes itself to the interests of Nurses, has started a very interesting kind of examination cyclept "Post Card Examinations." You answer a question in neat writing within the compass of a post card, and if you are successful you get a prize of books to the value of five shillings. Apart from the interest of such a competition, it is an excellent way of getting sensible and practical answers from experts on special questions. For example, the third question of the series was as to the best method of cleaning sponges after using for surgical purposes. To this our contemporary published some fourteen replies.—*Philanthropist*.

I HAVE often advocated the use of badges for Nurses. The *Nursing Record* takes up the question practically, and it is suggested that a badge of gold, silver, or bronze should be introduced, suspended by a ribbon of "church crimson or royal red." I am strongly of opinion that badges might be of great use in the organisation of the nursing.—*Philanthropist*.

TO NURSES WITH ARTISTIC TASTES.

SPECIAL PRIZE.

A Book or Books of the value of Half-a-Guinea will be given to the Competitor whose Sketch, in pen and ink, of a Badge most suitable for the British Nurses' Association shall be considered the best.

RULES.

- 1.—Anyone can compete provided such Competitor be engaged in Nursing work, and the Competition is therefore open to Probationers.
- 2.—The sketch must be drawn with pen and black ink on cards not less than four inches square.
- 3.—The colours to be used must also be quoted—for example, state whether silver on blue ground, gold on crimson, and so on.
- 4.—Say what part of the dress the badge should be fixed to.
- 5.—Sketches must reach the office of THE NURSING RECORD not later than Saturday, December 13th next.
- 6.—The umpires' decision to be final.

COMPETITIVE PRIZE ESSAY.

TWENTY-FIRST COMPETITION.

A Book or Books of the value of One Guinea will be awarded for an Essay upon the following subject:—

"Write a Story, founded upon your own actual experience, suitable for Christmas reading, the subject being left entirely to yourself."

RULES.

- 1.—Contributions must reach the Editor, at the office of THE NURSING RECORD, not later than Saturday, December 13th, addressed as follows:—"Prize Essay Competition, THE NURSING RECORD, St. Dunstan's House, Fetter Lane, London, E.C."
- 2.—Manuscript must be written distinctly in ink and on one side of the paper only, upon not less than 24 nor more than 48 pages of ordinary-sized ruled sermon paper. The pages must be numbered and fastened together.
- 3.—The real and full name and address (stating whether Miss or Mrs., of the Competitor must be inscribed on the back of each contribution, and notification of which Hospital or Institution the Competitor has been or is attached to.
- 4.—Trained Nurses or those personally associated with Nursing work only allowed to compete.

Winners in previous Competitions are permitted to compete, but in case of a "tie" the prize would be awarded to the Competitor who has not secured a prize before.

The decision of the Prize Essay Editor to be final, and any infringement of the above Rules will be considered a disqualification.

NOTICE.—The Prize Essay Editor will not undertake to return MSS. unless accompanied with a sufficiently stamped addressed envelope; and in no case will he be responsible for any loss of same during transmission, &c. In no case must manuscripts be rolled up when sent by post; they must be folded.

The "Nursing Record"

POST-CARD EXAMINATIONS.

No. 8.

A Book or Books of the value of Five Shillings will be awarded to the best answer to the following question, addressed, "Nursing Record Post-Card Competition," St. Dunstan's House, Fetter Lane, E.C. All answers to this question to reach us not later than November 20th, 1890:—

"Describe the best method of making Mutton Broth."

(a) The answer must be written (neatness and distinctness count to credit) in ink, on a *thick* post-card, with the full name and address of the candidate at the top. The successful candidate's answer will be printed in *fac-simile*.

(b) All associated with nursing work are accepted as candidates, but in case of a "tie" a subscriber will naturally have preference, and for this reason each candidate must mention at the bottom of the post-card, "I am a subscriber," or "I obtain the NURSING RECORD from—"

(c) The decision of the Examiners to be final.

* Give name and address of newsagent where obtained.

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