

I did not think there was very much difference, and he said the reason he asked was that a niece of his had gone to train in the former hospital—and she found the work so very hard. He was much surprised, because whenever he went to the ward in the afternoon the nurses seemed to be sitting down, and he did not think they could be very hard worked. I explained that the work of the moment was waiting for his round, and something of what took place at other times. He was very considerably astonished, and felt sure he could not stand it.

Yours, &c.,

MATRON.

WHAT WILL OUR POSITION BE?

To the Editor of THE BRITISH JOURNAL OF NURSING.

DEAR MADAM,—Matrons of Poor Law Infirmaries might well pause to consider what their position will be when the Consultative Board of the College of Nursing gets to work. Hearing that our Board had been invited to appoint two representatives, I naturally concluded that, as nursing was to be considered, I should have been one of those selected. But no such thing, and lay Guardians were chosen, and when I asked for information I was told that when they had considered questions I should be told what had been decided. You know what an uphill struggle I have had to get this training school to its present level, and if *our* College and our standards are to be governed by the laity, woe indeed for Infirmary Matrons. Surely our difficulties are sufficient at present without further trouble! The Consultative Board is, in my opinion, a great mistake, and will lead to all sorts of interference in nursing by people who do not know what is required, from an educational point of view. The attitude of the Poor Law Officers' Association proves the truth of this.

Yours always gratefully,

POOR LAW MATRON.

[We approve of the Nursing Profession being governed by a General Nursing Council appointed by Parliament, without further interference, as the Medical Profession is by the General Medical Council. The more simple the system of professional organisation the better.—ED.]

A POINT AT ISSUE.

To the Editor of THE BRITISH JOURNAL OF NURSING.

DEAR MADAM,—In the interesting replies to the Prize Competition question last week Miss Amy Phipps writes, "Every means must be taken to prevent the occurrence of bedsores," and Miss A. M. Ashdown writes, "Bedsores do not occur." Which of these ladies is right? I am deeply interested in the nursing of acute Poliomyelitis and shall be deeply grateful if either or both of the writers will give me their reasons for forming opposite opinions on the point at issue. I find the Competition Papers most instructive.

Yours truly,

A TERRITORIAL SISTER.

REPLIES TO CORRESPONDENTS.

Massage Student.—"The Labile Method," as given by E. M. MacGill in that instructive little book, "Notes on Galvanism and Faradism," is as follows:—"Place a large anodal pad beneath that part of the spine which supplies the affected muscles. Attach the kathode to a well-padded roller or disc. This is to be continually dabbed on and off the affected muscles, causing contractions. Before beginning the movements, hold the active electrode on the part steadily for a minute until a sufficient amount of current is being passed. Note the strength of this by the galvanometer reading; it will probably be about 10 or 15 m.a. that the patient can comfortably take.

"Then turn the galvanometer out of the circuit to prevent any undue strain on its mechanism.

"The motor point of every affected muscle is to be especially picked out and treated by the active electrode in order to get the best contractions."

The work from which we quote is published by H. K. Lewis & Co., Ltd., 136, Gower Street, London, W.C.

F. M. T.—Write to the Secretary, College of Nursing, 6, Vere Street, London, W., for information. We are informed that Cottage Nurses are not eligible for registration and membership of the College, but uncertificated nurses will be presumably on the General Register with those certificated, as class 3 provides for their registration. Class 2 is specially arranged for London Hospital nurses, as it is the only school which only trains for two years, and exacts two years' service on the private staff.

OUR PRIZE COMPETITIONS.

September 23rd.—Give the different kinds of sputum, mentioning the cases in which each is found. How would you disinfect that from a case of Phthisis?

September 30th.—What conditions are likely to lead to rupture of the perineum?

SOCIETY FOR STATE REGISTRATION OF TRAINED NURSES.

The object of the above Society is: To obtain an Act of Parliament providing for the Legal Registration of Trained Nurses, so as to obtain for them the protected title of "Registered Nurse," and thus distinguish qualified from unqualified nurses. Every nurse holding a certificate for three years' general training should join the Society. Apply to the Hon. Sec., 431, Oxford Street, London, W.

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