

observation is necessary in order that they may not be overlooked, as on an immediate surgical operation depends the only hope of the patient's recovery.

#### HONOURABLE MENTION.

The following competitors receive honourable mention: Miss Winifred M. Appleton, Miss Susan Lambert, Miss Josephine Carey.

#### QUESTION FOR NEXT WEEK.

Describe the technique for taking blood for examination for typhoid bacilli. What are the special points to observe in the subsequent care of the patient?

### NURSING ECHOES.

October will see the activities of the various groups of organised nurses in full swing, the officials, we may hope, refreshed and invigorated by an enjoyable holiday, of which they were all greatly in need.

The General Nursing Council meets again on Thursday, September 23rd, at the Ministry of Health, and it has very responsible matters to discuss. The Royal British Nurses Association and the various unions are arranging autumn programmes.

The Registered Nurses' Parliamentary Council opens its new legislative campaign on October 8th, and rank for Service Nurses is to have first consideration. Let us hope the powers that be will not oppose with obsolete "anti" tactics as they did over Registration. Anyway, if they do, they are sure to be beaten in the future, as they were in the past.

For the first time for years, the Assistant Editor of the *B.J.N.* is taking the sort of holiday her heart loveth, and as the guest of Miss du Sautoy and Lady Hermione Blackwood, is in France seeing something of their wonderful reconstruction work under the Comité Britannique C.R.F. at Rheims, where, with a most efficient unit, the great value of their skilled ministrations is amply apparent. More is the pity that now that the lease of their headquarters has run out, it is probable that their systematic and excellent work will cease. Money—money—devastated France needs and deserves money all the time, to help restore its ravaged places. The Municipality of Rheims, we hear, would provide central quarters where anti-natal and post-natal clinics and other preventive work could be carried on, and four centres in the various parts of the town, also wood, electric light and telephones, and may be other things; but they cannot provide board

and salaries for a skilled staff, as they have no money to do it with. It is calculated that the total cost for running such centres for a year, both for preventive work and district nursing, would cost about £1,500, and it does seem tragic that the excellently organised work should cease for want of so small a sum!

In England it is very difficult for those who have never seen ravaged France to realise the extent of her injuries. It is not only in bricks and mortar that the unspeakable Hun has left his mark. How about the nervous systems of the people who were subjected to the horrors of bombardment for years? Imagine the mental strain on the mothers, the shattering of the constitutions of children, not only from shock, but want of food. Sympathetic Miss Breay, of course, would have us find £1,500 by return of post! Would that we could! We repeat what we have said before that not a penny should we be taxed to entertain in England for a year in luxury, the children of our foes, so long as money is so urgently needed in France by the victims of their inexpressible villainy. "It really is a compliment to English nursing," writes Miss Breay, "that Rheims should want to keep this splendid unit. I do wish something could be done." So do we. Personally, we should like to impound the banking accounts of the golorious Jews of German antecedents, luxuriating in our midst.

On Monday, Miss Breay paid a visit to Verdun (where the echoes of the French guns still crash their defiant *Ils ne passeront pas* to ears which can hear), and will visit other historic places on the way to Paris. We feel sure she will have something of value to tell us upon her return.

Miss E. A. Maynard has by her will bequeathed £5,000 to the Ranyard Mission, of which she was a generous supporter. It has come at a very opportune moment, to prevent serious curtailment of the work. This Mission, which has its headquarters at 25, Russell Square, W.C., has been established for 63 years, and has 85 trained mission workers and 85 district nurses working in different parts of London. Ranyard Nurses, after full hospital training, have instruction free in district training, and by lectures. These devoted women are real friends of the sick poor in London.

*The Globe* is doing us good service in enlightening the public as to present nursing conditions. Alas! if only the daily press had

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