

Notes by the Wayside.

BY OUR PERIPATETIC CORRESPONDENT.

I AM just a little disappointed that the few suggestions I recently threw out as to the desirability of Diet and Sick Cookery forming an essential part of every Nurse's training has not been productive of more correspondence. But, then, Nurses are such very busy people that it is hardly surprising that they do not care to use their few leisure hours in concocting long letters for publication. And many Nurses feel that the present curriculum required for examinations and promotion is more than their over-taxed hands and brains can cope with, and so are unwilling to add any fresh subjects to the already alarming list of requirements.

BUT it is certainly true that an intimate knowledge of food values, and the mysteries of broths, soups, and other invalid concoctions are as necessary a part of knowledge to the Nurse as the properties of drugs and herbs and simples are to the medical student. And I look forward to the not far distant time when Nurses in Hospitals will learn less of the duties of a scrubber or a house-

maid, and more of the higher and more intricate branches of Nursing.

THERE is no question that it is right and proper for the Probationer during her first year to serve an apprenticeship in the arts of polishing, dusting and cleaning, because practice must always be added to the theory of spotless cleanliness. And what a keen eye for dusty corners and unbrightened brasses our training gives us! Until I graduated in this parlourmaid business I never appreciated the fact that most of my friends live in very dirty houses. Very often at an afternoon tea, when my hostesses are supposing me to be fascinated by the charms of some inane youth who is handing round the tea-cake, I am calculating to a nicety how long it would take to subject their æsthetic drawing-rooms to a process of "spring cleaning" in the Hospital sense of the word. How I have often longed to take duster, and broom, and polishing paste in hand and reduce these whited sepulchres of fashionable parlours to the spick-and-span condition of my mental standard of cleanliness.

AND perhaps this Pharasaical spirit helps me to feel thankful for past experiences, and to forget

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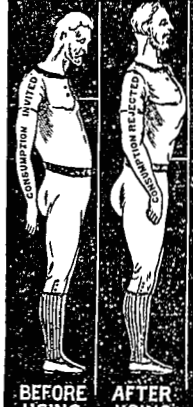
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