

Examination for the State Registration of Trained Nurses

In our last issue we gave the results of the December final State Examinations. Below will be found the questions and some of the answers given in the medical and surgical papers, together with the comments of the examiners.

We are sorry we have none of the answers given by the midwifery candidates, as they were especially good; but hope after the next examinations to be able to print some.

Anatomy and Physiology.

1ST DECEMBER, 1908.

TIME: THREE HOURS.

[N.B.—Candidates are expected to answer every question. Answers should be brief and to the point.]

1. Describe a rib, and give the attachments before and behind of (a) fifth rib, (b) ninth rib, (c) eleventh rib.

2. Name the different kinds of joints met with in the body, giving an example of each. Describe carefully the knee joint.

3. Give a short sketch of the systemic and pulmonary circulation. At what points in the circulation do important changes in the character of the blood occur, and what is, briefly, the nature of these changes?

4. What are the chief ferments met with in the alimentary canal? Name the regions where found, and state shortly the part each plays in the process of digestion.

5. Give a short account of the excretion of urine. What amount of urine is excreted in twenty-four hours by an adult, and what are the circumstances which lead to a variation in the amount excreted?

Medical Nursing.

QUESTIONS.

TIME: TWO HOURS AND A HALF.

1. What are the causes of coma? Describe briefly the symptoms and nursing of a case of apoplexy.

2. Describe the symptoms and nursing of typhoid fever. What are the chief complications?

3. Give particulars as to the preparation and administration of nutrient enemata. In what cases are they usually required?

4. Describe the symptoms and nursing of a case of pneumonia. Mention the complications.

5. Enumerate the most common hypnotics, giving doses for an adult.

6. What do you understand by paraplegia, thrombosis, empyæma pneumothorax?

EXAMINERS'S NOTES.

The best replies were undoubtedly given to question II.: "The Symptoms, Nursing, and Complications of Typhoid Fever." Candidates had evidently been well grounded in this subject. Few gross mistakes were made, and the average percentage of marks was high.

The question on Pneumonia was productive of suggestions which, if carried out, might be an evidence of the zeal of the nurse, but would not conduce to the comfort and safety of the patient. Among the recommendations were the following:—That the temperature of the room be from 70 deg. to 75 deg.; that the patient be placed in a steam tent; that the mouth and teeth be cleaned two-hourly, and that the patient be fed on an exclusively milk diet.

Question III., on the preparation and administration of nutrient enemata, met with very indifferent treatment. Few candidates gave any details as to the peptonisation of nutrient enemata; though almost without exception it was recommended that the milk should be peptonised. Still fewer made any mention of lavage of the rectum as a preliminary to the administration of a nutrient enema: most candidates were content with a soap and water enema every twenty-four hours.

Remarkable lengths of rubber tubing—four or five feet—would, in the opinion of more than one, be requisite for a four-ounce nutrient enema.

One candidate would give a four-ounce enema every two or three hours; another would not object to administering four ounces of brandy per rectum in one act—happy patient!