

REVIEW

PRACTICAL NURSING by W. T. Gordon Pugh, M.D., B.S. (Lond.), F.R.C.S. (Eng.),
 Revised and Edited by P.D. Gordon Pugh, M.A., M.B., B.Ch., F.R.C.S. (Eng.),
 20th Edition. William Blackwood & Sons, Ltd. 45s.

This book made its first appearance in two separate volumes in 1899 and 1903, when Florence Nightingale was still living and active. Its immediate success led to its next edition in 1904 and this time both volumes were combined in one. Since then, it has continued to enjoy success for well over half-a-century.

Part I covers the General Nursing Council's Preliminary Examinations for the General Register (except anatomy and physiology): Hygiene, first aid, elementary-nursing, elementary psychology. The subjects for the Final Examinations: General nursing, therapeutics, dietetics, bacteriology, and medical, surgical and gynaecological nursing, are covered in Part II. Many new illustrations are included and new chapters are written on tropical diseases, surgical procedures and radiotherapy.

All questions set for both Part I and Part II since 1950 are given in the book and they are either included at the end of the relevant chapters or appendixd at the end of the book. This provides a good revision for the nurse who wishes to attempt these questions.

The book opens with a chapter on the history and ethics of nursing. Although the practice of nursing has changed considerably since the old days, the nurse should not lose sight of the fact

that the qualities that go to make a good nurse remain essentially the same over the years. She is also made aware of the ethics of nursing, her legal responsibility to the patient. This is the more important now, because of the recent increase in the public appetite for litigation in medical and nursing matters.

This book in 1310 pages may appear quite a formidable volume for a busy nurse to read and digest. It covers a wide range of subjects on medicine, general surgery, orthopaedics, ophthalmology, ear, nose and throat, gynaecology, obstetrics, paediatrics, anaesthesia, and radiotherapy. But most of the subjects are well written in a manner to make her understand more fully the daily practicals and routines she does in the ward and the theatre. She would also get a better understanding of the patient and the disease he is suffering from.

In short, here, in a single volume, is virtually all the knowledge that a nurse requires throughout her career. It is strongly recommended for those in the nursing profession and those who are connected with the training of nurses. Perusal of this book will undoubtedly be richly rewarding.

Tham Giap Boo



The newest and smallest of Kodak's film processors, the amazingly compact X-Omat Processor, Model M5, was shown abroad for the first time at the International Congress of Radiology in Rome, September 22-28. Lowest in price of the X-Omat line, this new M5 Processor requires less than half a square meter of floor space and can process 70 sheets of x-ray film per hour of intermixed film sizes.

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