



# A GENERAL TEXTBOOK OF NURSING

a comprehensive guide

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by

EVELYN C. PEARCE

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# A General Textbook of Nursing

The author, Miss Emily Parsons, is a graduate of the Massachusetts General Hospital, Boston, and has been for many years in the service of the Massachusetts General Hospital, Boston, and the Massachusetts General Hospital, Boston. She is also a member of the American Association of Nurses, and the American Association of Hospital Nurses. The book is written for the use of students in nursing schools, and for nurses in general. It covers the subjects of anatomy, physiology, hygiene, dietetics, and nursing. The book is written in a clear and concise style, and is well illustrated with diagrams and photographs. It is a valuable text for students and a reference work for nurses.

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A TEXTBOOK OF NURSING, SECOND EDITION.

EMILY C. PARSONS, M.A., M.B., B.S., D.P.H.

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*books by Evelyn C. Pearce*



MEDICAL AND NURSING DICTIONARY AND ENCYCLOPAEDIA

A TEXTBOOK OF ORTHOPAEDIC NURSING

ANATOMY AND PHYSIOLOGY FOR NURSES

FEVERS AND FEVER NURSING

A COMPLETE HANDBOOK OF HYGIENE IN  
QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

INSTRUMENTS, APPLIANCES AND THEATRE TECHNIQUE

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## Preface to the First Edition

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**I**n writing this book for nurses it has been my endeavour to provide one which is sufficiently comprehensive to enable the student to find in it the introduction to nursing she needs on entering hospital, a useful book of reference as she works in one department of the hospital or other and the information she requires in order to pass the Hospital and State Examinations in the different branches of nursing subjects included in the curriculum.

The information I have been able to give is largely derived from personal experience in the care of the sick and in the teaching of nurses. I desire to express my gratitude to my teachers first of all, then to those whose books and articles I have read and also to many friends who have helped me by advice and kind criticism. I should like to thank them all individually, but space does not permit. Will they please accept my thanks for helping me to help others?

I have the greatest pleasure in expressing my gratitude to Sister Marjorie Wenger for help in arranging the illustrations, to Mr. B. D. H. Watters for his able photography and to Mr. C. W. Stewart of Messrs. Faber and Faber for his co-operation and assistance. I acknowledge also my indebtedness to Miss G. E. Davies, the Registrar of the General Nursing Council, for permission to make use of State Examination question papers.

EVELYN C. PEARCE.

*March 31st, 1937*



## Preface to the Ninth Edition

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**I**t has been found necessary, in order to economize paper, to separate the photographs from the text. These will be found in groups throughout the book in positions where it is most convenient to include them. Both the publishers and I regret the necessity for this step which I can assure my readers has only been taken after the most careful deliberation and is introduced as a temporary measure during the shortage of paper.

A number of alterations have been made to this edition in order to keep the book quite up to date. A new chapter on Sanatorium Nursing has been added and the notes in the Surgical Section on Thoracic Surgical Nursing have been amplified.

EVELYN C. PEARCE.

*August, 1945.*