

MISS HETHERINGTON has resigned the position of matron of the Victoria Park Hospital for Diseases of the Chest. This is an enviable position for a matron, and no doubt there will be keen competition for the vacancy.

A PARAGRAPH headed "Starving Nurses" has been going round the press in connection with the allowance of food at the Camberwell Infirmary. Dr. Partridge moved, at a recent meeting of the Guardians, "that the dietary scale for second class officers be amended by the addition thereto of one pound of meat and extra vegetables to the value of threepence weekly." It appears that the nurses are allowed six pounds of meat weekly (we should be sorry to have to consume the quantity); but we are reminded that fat and bone is included. As there was much difference of opinion as to increasing the rations, the question was referred to the Infirmary Committee for re-consideration. It is probable that a greater variety of food is what is required. Nurses seldom crave for extra pounds of meat.

THE New York correspondent of the *Lancet* says:—

"The scheme of the New Orleans University Medical College to found a training school for coloured women as nurses is well under way and is assured of success. The aim is to supply at moderate rates nurses who will be competent for all the duties performed by white nurses, and willing and able also to relieve the strain put upon an ordinary household by sickness, instead of, as is now sometimes the case, aggravating it. Careful inquiry was made by the physicians interested in the movement to make sure that there would be a paying demand for the graduates of the school, and the result was satisfactory. No one who has had much experience with sickness is ignorant of the fact that the trained nurse of to-day is, though indispensable, extremely expensive, directly and indirectly, or that there may be many cases in which less costly, even if less accomplished, attendants would be a great convenience. If coloured girls can be trained to meet this need—and they unquestionably can—it will open to their race an occupation which those fitted by intelligence and character now entirely lack."

Appointment.

MISS KATHLEEN S. BURLEIGH has been appointed assistant matron to the Poplar and Stepney Sick Asylum. Miss Burleigh was trained and certificated at St. Bartholomew's Hospital, where she held the post of staff nurse. She acted as night superintendent during the holidays; and for the last four months has been assistant to the Home Sister.

The Hospital World.

SURGERY SYSTEMS.

WESTMINSTER HOSPITAL.

The arrangements at the Westminster Hospital seem much the same as those at the Metropolitan Hospital. Here also a bed is provided for any doubtful case, which is under the care of the Night Sister at night. Bed linen is not provided—simply blankets. The secretary, to whose courtesy I am indebted for my information with regard to this Hospital, told me that it was many years since a case had been sent away at night which after events proved was one which should have been admitted.

GUY'S HOSPITAL.

At Guy's Hospital the casualty is distinct from the out-patient department. It has only comparatively recently been put in charge of a sister. There is a couch upon which patients can rest for a while if necessary, but there are no beds. It appears to me that there is less accommodation for casualty cases in this hospital than in any other of its size, and as in the poor and populous neighbourhood in which Guy's is situated the number of cases must of necessity be many, it would be well if, amongst the improvements now being made, the enlarging of the casualty department were to be taken in hand with a view to providing a certain number of beds. When it is remembered that at St. Bartholomew's 533 patients were admitted into the casualty beds in one year, and 40 deaths took place in them, it cannot, I think, be contended that this is an unnecessary suggestion. There is a nurse on night duty. Mrs. Keogh, familiarly known as "Auntie," who has only lately retired, spent twenty-five years continuously on night duty in this department. Mrs. Keogh had been in the service of the hospital for over thirty years.

THE NEW HOSPITAL FOR WOMEN.

At this hospital a nurse is on duty in the out-patient department, with a woman under her who keeps order in the waiting-room. There is no one on duty at night, as the hospital does not take in accidents, and therefore it is very rare for a case to be brought after the day nurse has gone off duty. During the past year 6,960 out-patients obtained new letters, 5,961 have had letters renewed, and 30,220 visits have been paid to the department. The secretary makes inquiries into the circumstances of the persons who apply for out-patient relief, and, so far as is possible, unsuitable candidates are eliminated. In the maternity department 281 women have been attended in their own homes.

M. B.

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